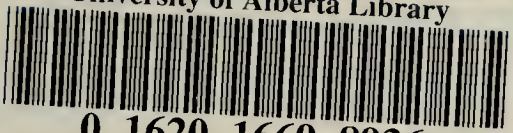


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The

BLUE JAY

A JOURNAL OF NATURAL HISTORY AND CONSERVATION
FOR SASKATCHEWAN AND ADJACENT REGIONS

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Regina, Saskatchewan

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Sandhill Cranes

Photo by Harold Hosford

Published quarterly by the
SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Regina, Saskatchewan

A Home for the Blue Jay

Now, as we end our twenty-sixth year of publication, the people who gather the information, publish the Saskatchewan Natural History Society *Newsletter* and *Blue Jay*, and who work for conservation in this part of the world have rented space which they can call home.

During our twenty-six years we have imposed on various people. We began our work in several homes in Yorkton, where this year we will return for our annual meeting. In that city, the *Blue Jay* was mimeographed in a home and the *Blue Jay* covers were coloured and addressed by hand. Some of the farsighted and enthusiastic naturalists involved in those earliest efforts are still active and strong supporters of our program today.

When the work became too heavy for the few people left in Yorkton, help was given by various institutions. At first, the mimeographing was done by the Museum of Natural History in Regina, but collaboration between people in two cities was difficult and publication of the magazine became irregular. It was at this time that people interested in the *Blue Jay* reorganized to form the provincial society. Mimeographing was then done at Regina College and groups of people gathered in the biology laboratory to collate, staple and address the *Blue Jay*. When Regina College became a university and moved into new quarters, some space for editorial files was provided on an already overcrowded new campus.

The boost which changed the *Blue Jay* from a mimeographed to a printed magazine came in 1951 when the Government of Saskatchewan ordered so many copies of one particular issue of the *Blue Jay* that mimeographing seemed impossible. Though we were barely able to pay for each issue, we continued from that time to print our magazine. For several years, starting in 1958 the Saskatchewan Government came to our aid with yearly grants which allowed us to give the *Blue Jay* to schools and to juniors at less than cost and enabled us to print special publications of real educational worth. Costs however, continue to rise and at present we receive no government support. The annual meeting will, therefore, consider raising the one dollar membership fee for schools and juniors. The constitution will also come before this year's annual meeting.

But our interests have always been broader than the mere provision of a place where naturalists could publish their observations. We began a bookshop so that people could extend their studies and further develop their interests in natural history. About half of our correspondence relates to this bookshop, but when an Ottawa supporter passing through recently asked to see the *Blue Jay* bookshop he was told that it was under Mr. Brazier's bed!

Obviously, there is much office work to be done and this prompts our decision to acquire our first simple work area. We initiate the project, of course, only on an experimental basis for it will cost some \$400 per year. Stated in a different way, at our current two dollar membership we would need 200 more members to defray this expense or an additional fifteen cents per year from present members. Certainly, it is not thought that all our work will be done in our one small home; each of us will continue to work where he can, the *Newsletter* will still be prepared in Saskatoon, and we will continue to meet out-of-doors as we did this year for the opening of the Maurice Street Memorial. However, now that we have a headquarters it is to be hoped that our society can operate more efficiently and can advance to new and better activities. For example, let us concentrate on the all-important problem of preserving natural areas. Please increase the volume of our correspondence by continuing to write in about areas which you think we should conserve.

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SASKATCHEWAN BIRD BANDERS*

JOHN R. CARTER OF MUSCOW

by C. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon

John R. Carter began banding at Muscow, Saskatchewan, in 1929, five years after his brother obtained a permit. By 1952, before moving to Woodlands, Manitoba, he had banded 1739 individuals of 61 species. Most of his birds were banded in the first five years — with declining consecutive yearly totals of 642, 379, 211, 207 and 98 individuals banded, perhaps reflecting increasing pressure of farm work.

Remarkable success was obtained with Red-tailed Hawks: six recoveries from only eleven birds banded (*Blue Jay*, 25:110, September, 1967). This makes a total of 22 recoveries from 51 Redtails banded by the two Carter brothers at Muscow between 1923 and 1939 — an example of what valuable information can result from banding only a few individuals per year.

From 11 Crows banded there were three recoveries (Oklahoma, Kansas and Meota, Saskatchewan) and from three Marsh Hawks, one recovery from Rolla, Kansas. A Cooper's Hawk nestling, banded on June 28, 1929 was shot by Joe Hardy at Balcarres, Saskatchewan on September 16, 1929. This was the third nest and the first banding recovery for this species, which was still listed only as "hypothetical" in Mitchell's *Birds of Saskatchewan* in 1924.

A nestling Great Horned Owl, banded May 22, 1932, travelled about 115 miles southeastward to be shot at Moose Mountain Indian Reserve near Manor, Saskatchewan, about November 3, 1933. This was presumably the furthest travel of a banded Great

Horned Owl to that date, since it was published in Frederick C. Lincoln's chapter, "Interesting Recoveries of Banded Birds", in the National Geographic Society's *The Book of Birds*, published in Washington in 1937.

Of 26 Mallards banded, three were shot in Saskatchewan, one in Iowa and one in Oklahoma. A Blue-winged Teal was shot at Sarasota, Wyoming. Eight recoveries and three returns from the Bronzed Grackle are listed elsewhere in this issue.

Another very interesting recovery was that of an immature Eastern Kingbird banded at Muscow on July 25, 1950 and found dead on a porch at Rio Frio, Texas on March 5, 1953. A young Baltimore Oriole banded July 1, 1938 was caught by a cat in Iowa (412-0950) on September 3, 1938.

A major effort in the first five years was the banding of 624 House Wrens. Only one nestling wren was later caught at its nest on the Carter farm and this was three years later. Of 11 adult wrens retrapped at their nests, nine were in the following year, one was two years later and one was three years later.

Others under the category of "returns" (birds retrapped in succeeding years) included the following: five Clay-colored Sparrows, one Yellow Warbler, one Catbird, one Downy and one Hairy Woodpecker and two Black-capped Chickadees. All were adults when banded. The best return record was of a Black-capped Chickadee which was banded December 5, 1929, then was caught on its nest nearby on June 1, 1930 and finally had its tiny band read through the window as it perched on the window-sill on February 1, 1933.

* No. 10 in a series of biographies of bird banders

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW AT REGINA

by **Bill Eddie**, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina

On Friday, April 12, 1968, F. W. Lahrman of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History saw a swallow flying over the Wascana Waterfowl Park and tentatively identified it as a Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*), but he did not have any binoculars at the time so he could not obtain a close view of the bird. F. G. Bard, the Director of the Museum, and I joined him a few minutes later and observed the swallow through 13x60 and 7x50 binoculars. As it flew past in full sunlight, I noticed that it had an oval white patch on either side of the rump and at times it appeared as if the two patches almost joined across the rump forming one patch. I commented that it reminded me slightly of the House Martin of Eurasia, with which I am familiar, but I could also see that its face was unusually white, that its crown was paler than the back, and that the mantle and wing coverts were greenish. This prompted me to think that we were in fact looking at a Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) and not a Tree Swallow. In view of this, all three of us studied it very closely for the next 10 minutes or so, and both Mr. Bard and Mr. Lahrman, who are familiar with Tree Swallows, were satisfied that the identification was correct.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Violet-green Swallow is not listed on the *Field check-list of Saskatchewan birds* (Houston, Bard and Nero, 1959), although sight records of swallows believed to be of this species have been reported on a few occasions. For example, I have in my Regina files two such reports from the field notes of the late J. H. Taylor who kept records in the Regina area in the 1930's and 1940's. Taylor and his party reported a Violet-green Swallow seen in a mixed flock with Cliff, Bank,

Tree and Barn swallows on May 27, 1934, and a second sighting on July 1, 1935, both in the vicinity of Boggy Creek.

W. Earl Godfrey (*Birds of Canada*, 1966) lists the Violet-green Swallow as "accidental in Manitoba (Sandilands, April 1945)," but does not give any records for Saskatchewan. Details of the Manitoba records have kindly been supplied to Margaret Belcher by Dr. Robert W. Nero of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, who referred us to the report of the first Manitoba record given by A. G. Lawrence in his "Chickadee Notes" column (#1260) in the *Winnipeg Tribune*, where it was reported that J. H. Inkster had picked up a dead male Violet-green Swallow in the nursery of the Sandilands Forest Reserve on April 30, 1945 and forwarded it to the Manitoba Museum. The Director of the Museum, L. T. S. Norris-Elve, then reported this addition to the list of Manitoba birds to the *Canadian Field-Naturalist* (59:173, Sept.-Oct., 1945). Later, in a second report in "Chickadee Notes" (#1281), A. G. Lawrence told of a sighting by Angus H. Shortt of Winnipeg, who identified a Violet-green Swallow in a gathering of thousands of Tree Swallows in the Netley district, on September 2, 1945.

In commenting on the April 30, 1945 record for Manitoba, Mr. Norris-Elye wrote that "for several days before the bird was found, we had a succession of northwest gales with snow and rain and it is reasonable to suppose that it had been taken downwind for hundreds of miles in a weakened condition." A similar circumstance may account for our Saskatchewan record, for there was an excessively strong southeast wind on the preceding day (April 11), and it is possible that the swallow may have been blown off its usual migration course.

NESTING OF THE GREAT GRAY OWL IN MANITOBA

by **David F. Parmelee**, Department of Biology,
Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kansas

In the early evening of June 3, 1964, Phil Reader and I visited a small clearing upgrown to tall aspens deep in a muskeg, several miles southwest of Lake Atikameg (Clearwater) near The Pas, Manitoba, where Goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) had nested in previous times. We failed to find the hawks but were amazed to see a brooding Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) on an old hawk nest some 50 feet up in one of the largest trees. It was the first nesting bird of its kind either of us had seen. Reader had resided on this land for many years.

By the time I had climbed halfway to the nest, the adult had flushed and alighted in another tree. In the unlined nest were two fairly large but still downy young of different sizes—indicating an age difference of two or three days. The adult, probably female, returned to the young soon after I had climbed down to the ground again. No large hawks or other species of owls were noted in the vicinity, although a pair of Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) and a Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) had nests in aspens near by.

The following day we returned to the owl site with H. A. Stephens and Jack Simmons and spent several hours watching and photographing the brooding bird. The mate, after first announcing his arrival by hooting softly, flew from the muskeg directly to the nest with a small rodent. Upon presenting the prey, he quickly flew back to the muskeg on perfectly silent wings and disappeared only to return a short time later. Both birds were decidedly tame—almost indifferent to our presence. We did not have an opportunity to check the nest again, but presumably the young fledged. Reader has since checked the nesting site each spring. The owls did not



return to this nest in the next three years nor were any Great Gray Owls seen in the general area. In 1968, however, a pair has occupied the same nest (pers. corres., R. W. Nero).

These owls may not have been the only ones nesting in the vicinity of The Pas in 1964, for early on the morning of June 3 that year I had flushed a Great Gray Owl from the muskeg immediately west of the Evergreen Lodge on Lake Atikameg. Owner of the lodge, Russ Tawse, later told us that the bird (or birds) had been seen rather frequently at the dump a short distance away. I do not believe that this bird, or pair, occupied the nest on the Reader property.

According to Robert W. Nero (pers. corres.), the nesting described above is the second one of the Great Gray Owl for Manitoba. E. Robinson reported finding a nest with three young on the east side of Lake Dauphin on May 14, 1926 (*Blue Jay*, 12:20; "Chickadee Notes" No. 271, June 3, 1926). Observations were made when the author was engaged in research for the University of Oklahoma Medical Center (National Institutes of Health Grant No. AI 05232-01).



Photo from kodachrome transparency

Great Gray Owl, June 4, 1964

September, 1968

OREGON JUNCO AT ISLAND LAKE, MANITOBA

by **A. Edward Wilson**, Island Lake, Manitoba

In the fall of 1967 I banded 207 Slate-colored Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) at Island Lake. Four late arrivals fed under my feeder from October 22 to October 28. On the 29th, I noticed that one of the four seemed to be slightly different. I spent some time observing the bird and finally concluded that it was either an Oregon Junco (*Junco oregonus*) or a hybrid between an Oregon Junco and a Slate-colored Junco. I hastily set up my mist nets on top of the snow and almost immediately captured the bird. According to W. Earl Godfrey, *The birds of Canada* (1966: 389-90), the hood of the Oregon Junco stops short of the brown on the sides, a feature that was apparent in the bird I had captured. I then sent the live bird in

a cage by air to Dr. Robert Nero, Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Winnipeg, who agreed that the bird appeared to be an Oregon Junco. This identification was confirmed by W. Earl Godfrey, National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, who identified it as *Junco oregonus montanus*. This is a subspecies of the Oregon Junco which breeds in the interior of British Columbia and western Alberta. Island Lake is about 300 miles north-northeast of Winnipeg and about 1000 miles northeast of the nearest known breeding range of this species. This is the northernmost locality for which the Oregon Junco has been reported in Manitoba. The specimen, an adult male, is in the Manitoba Museum collections 1.2-2510).

VARIED THRUSH AT ROSETOWN, SASKATCHEWAN

by **Wayne Renaud**, Rosetown, Saskatchewan

Thanksgiving day, October 9, 1967 was an unusual day for me, because of an unexpected observation of a straggler from the Rockies, the Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*). I was gazing out of our porch window at the overcast sky and the garden, bare of all plants at this season, when I caught sight of a bird in the far corner. At first I thought it was a Robin; from a distance its actions were very similar to those of this well-known bird of lawn and garden. But as it came closer I became aware of the black stripe across its breast, a narrow orange stripe above both eyes, and two light orange wing bars. I knew then it was definitely not a Robin, but because of its actions I was sure it must be a member of the Thrush Family. But which one?

The bird kept coming closer, hopping on both feet in the manner of a Robin, until it was only 10 or 15 feet from the window. My curiosity was

getting the better of me, and I wanted to go at once for a bird guide, but I watched the bird until it finally flew off.

In my guide books later I found that the bird was a Varied Thrush which inhabits the Rocky Mountains from Alberta to California. I also learned that it was a rare straggler in Saskatchewan, and so I knew that I had seen one of the rarest of our birds right in my own back yard. I wrote to Doug Gilroy, who writes the "Prairie Wildlife" column in the *Western Producer*, and he agreed with my identification.

The following day I saw the bird again in the garden while I was waiting for the school bus, but after that I never saw it again. However, I shall not forget this remarkable observation.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The status of the Varied Thrush in Saskatchewan has

been regarded as hypothetical (Field check-list of Saskatchewan birds, 4th ed., 1959). However, there have been a number of sight observations in recent years, most of which have already been recorded in the *Blue Jay* in articles by Belcher (*Blue Jay*, 22:153, December, 1964) and Brazier (*Blue Jay*, 23:160, December, 1965). These include a record of a bird banded at Burnham, Saskatchewan on September 27, 1949 by Arthur Ward, and several sight records for Regina city. In Regina, one was seen September 9, 1958 by Margaret Belcher; one on September 30, 1961 by Mrs. Elsie

Cheseman; one on May 22, 1962 by Herb Tempel; one on October 24, 1964 by Belcher and others; one on October 12, 1965 by Frank Brazier and again on the following day by R. W. Nero, J. Gerrard and Belcher, with a further observation (possibly of a second bird) by Belcher on October 23 and Brazier on October 24, 1965; one on October 1, 1966 by F. G. Bard and F. W. Lahrman. Because of this concentration of records in Regina, it is of interest to have a report from Rose-town. Wayne Renaud is a 15-year-old student of birds who has been contributing to the Junior Naturalists.]

RUSTY BLACKBIRD ATTACKS SPARROWS

by **A. Edward Wilson**, Island Lake, Manitoba

An observation of Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) killing and feeding on Common Snipe and Robins when hard pressed for food following a heavy snowstorm has been quoted in Bent (1958. Life histories of North American blackbirds, orioles, tanagers, and allies. U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 211, p. 291). This strange behaviour was seen in Texas in 1895: " . . . I saw them actually kill ten or twelve Snipe on the ground where the snow had melted, but there were thirty or forty dead ones that I saw in other places. The Rusty Blackbirds were the principal aggressors, and it was astonishing to see how quickly they could attack and lay out a Snipe or a Robin. Both species were killed while on the ground and the Blackbirds would only eat the head, or as near as I could see, the brain, while the body was left untouched.' "

Brief observations of related behaviour made by me this spring at Island Lake in northern Manitoba provide further evidence of the predatory aggressiveness of this species. On May 17, 1968, after a three-day snowfall during which food was virtually impossible to find, approximately 200 sparrows and several

Rusty Blackbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds fed under my feeder during the daylight hours without intermission. Shortly after 7:00 p.m. a male Rusty Blackbird pounced on a White-throated Sparrow, seizing it in its claws, and a wild struggle ensued during which the blackbird pecked furiously at the sparrow's head. Before the sparrow could be killed the blackbird was frightened off. The other birds scattered at the beginning of the attack, obviously agitated, but too hungry to go far. For some time afterwards the attacker was given an area of several square feet to himself. However, he made at least two more lunges at White-throated Sparrows and one at another male Rusty Blackbird. Earlier on the same day, Miss La Nore Morehouse and Miss Constance Singleterry reported seeing a Rusty Blackbird attack a sparrow which they could not identify. Enos Legge reported two other attacks, again on unidentified sparrows.

On May 18, no attacks were observed, but a decapitated White-throated Sparrow was found about 40 feet west of my feeder. It seems probable that this is a fifth instance of a Rusty attack.

VOCALIZATION IN THE WHITE PELICAN

by **Martin McNicholl**, Zoology Department, University of Manitoba*

A. C. Bent (1922) called the White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) "particularly silent birds." Neither Roger Tory Peterson (1947) nor Robbins, Bruun, and Zim (1966) make any mention of voice for the White Pelican in their popular field guides. Elsewhere, Peterson (1961) calls the adults "virtually silent." Skinner (1917) stated that "the old pelicans never make a sound." Bent (op. cit.) cites Dr. P. L. Hatch, writing in 1892, as saying they make a loud, difficult-to-describe call from great heights in the sky. However, neither Bent (op. cit.) nor Palmer (1962) could find any other references to calls from adults away from the breeding colony.

It would appear from the above that adult pelicans are normally silent birds, at least away from the breeding grounds. I was therefore surprised on May 17, 1967 to hear a low grunt from at least one of two pelicans which flew overhead, just above tree level, as I stood on the well-treed ridge along the south shore of Lake Manitoba at the University of Manitoba Field Station at Delta, Manitoba. Although pelicans frequently fish along Lake Manitoba, the nearest known breeding colony to Delta is at East Shoal Lake (Lies and Behle, 1966; Anderson and Bartonek, 1967), approximately 36 miles distant.

The sound I heard was not a loud call like that described by Hatch, and was not made at a high altitude. It was more like the "grunt" call described in the literature for the adults on the breeding grounds (and also heard by Dr. Roger M. Evans and myself at a colony on Dog Lake, Manitoba on June 11, 1967). These calls have been described by Bent (1922) as "low-toned grunts" or "subdued croaking." He cites Chapman as calling this "a deep voiced, not loud,

murmuring groan", Grinnell as referring to it as "a grunting quack", and Audubon as likening it to a sound "produced by blowing through the bunghole of a cask." Peterson (1961) calls it a "low groan." Schaller (1964) found these "murmuring grunts" to be quite common at the colony. He also heard "loud nasal ho-ho-hos" and grunts during displays of nest relief ceremonies, and "loud harsh grunts" during copulation between adults and attempted copulations of young by adults. It may be noted that Bent (op. cit.) says the grunt call is "not audible at great distance." As the pelican often "soars at great heights" (Robbins et al., op. cit.), they may call more than is generally supposed away from the breeding colony, but their calls may not be heard by the human observer below.

In contrast to the adults, young pelicans are quite vocal. Skinner (1917) says they have "only a low grunt", but Bent (op. cit.) cites Dr. Chapman as saying they make "a low coughing whining grunt", which in a chorus "creates quite a volume of sound." Schaller (op. cit.) notes that young at hatching and one week old emit a "harsh kek-kek", but at about two weeks this becomes a "nasal waa-o, waa-o." In captivity the young have been known to give "low hoarse prologned sqawks" for "a few days" after capture (pers. comm. C. McGrath, fide V. Scott). That the young are strongly vocal at an early age was strikingly demonstrated on our visit to Dog Lake, where vocalizations similar to that described by Schaller (1964) for newly-hatched pelicans were heard emanating from pipped eggs.

I would like to thank Carol McGrath and Vere Scott for information on pelicans in zoos, and Dr. R. M. Evans and Dr. R. W. Nero for critically reading this note. My work at the field station was supported by a

*Publication No. 6 of the University of Manitoba Field Station, Delta.

National Research Council of Canada grant.

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White Pelicans

Photo by Harold Hosford, Winnipeg

1967 REVIEW OF SASKATOON BIRD OBSERVATIONS

by J. B. Gollop, Canadian Wildlife Service, Saskatoon

This paper attempts to summarize the more interesting records from the Saskatoon Bird Review for the period January 1 through December 31, 1967. Although this is the sixth annual review of birds reported within a 40-mile radius of Saskatoon, it is only the second one based on data from more than a handful of observers. The following statistics indicate the cooperation of members of the Saskatoon Natural History Society in this venture.

Bird Review:	Vol. 2 No. 2	2 (3)	2 (4)	2 (5)	3 (1)	Total	
Period:	Jan. 1- Feb. 28	Mar. 1- Apr. 16	Apr. 17- Jun. 11	Jun. 12- Oct. 9	Oct. 10- Dec. 31	1967	1966
Contributors	24	46	54	41	41	102	101
Records Received	417	1,513	2,021	2,025	938	6,914	4,500±
Cards Received..	211	1,103	1,352	934	410	4,010	2,644
Species Reported	30	67	188	184	79	220	217

The important comparison with last year is the number of records—a 50 per cent increase over 1966. We now have 115± pages of annotated list for the two years. If this level of cooperation can be maintained and if the proportion of data on breeding observations and on the numbers of migrants, particularly in the fall, can be increased, there should be adequate information after the 1969 season for a preliminary publication on the birds of the Saskatoon district.

Contributors

There were about the same number of reporters each year, and we wish to express our thanks to all of them. Fourteen people were involved in two-thirds of the records. They comprised the nine parties who contributed more than 300 records each: E. R. Clark, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Gollop, M. A. Gollop, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hogg, Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Houston, A. L. Nijssen, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Richards, A. R. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wedgwood. One-quarter of the year's reports came from people submitting 100 to 300 records: J. R. Cartwright, R. V. Folker, J. M. Gerrard, Mr. and Mrs. G. Galloway, M. R. Lein, G. O. Michalenko, D. M. Murray, J. F. Roy, J. A. Slimmon and D. W. Whitfield.

Without contributors there would be no annotated list, but without several other people there would be no Bird Review. While production of the report itself has never been a one-man effort, this has been particularly true in 1967. The editor wishes to express special thanks to Mrs. R. L. Learmonth, Mrs. H. M. Burtonwood and Miss L. E. Dressler of the Canadian Wildlife Service who have assisted in all phases from compiling records to operating staplers. Several members of SNHS have also assisted in putting issues together: Arnold Nijssen, Alan Smith, Cliff Matthews, Bill and Florence Richards.

Breeding Season

There were 721 nests, broods and coveys reported in 1967 (see Table 1), 61 less than last year. Sixty-seven of the 116 breeding species were included, 9 less than in 1966. While no new breeding species were recorded in 1967, the first positive evidence of breeding was found for four species: Cooper's Hawk (3 nests), Purple Martin (a colony of 9 nests), Blue Jay (1 nest) and American Goldfinch (a recently fledged brood of two).

There are still at least five regular breeders for which nests or newly fledged young have not been reported:

Table 1. Breeding species in the Saskatoon District with 1967 breeding records.

	Active Nests	Broods** Coveys		Active Nests	Broods** Coveys		Active Nests	Broods** Coveys
*Red-nk Grebe	...	...	Willet	...	3	Robin	3	...
Horned Grebe	2	1	Marbl Godwit	...	...	Swain Thrush	...	...
Eared Grebe	10	33±	Am Avocet	3	...	Veery	...	...
Pied-b Grebe	...	1	Wils Phalar	...	...	Mt Bluebird	3	...
*Gr Bl Heron	...	...	*Frank Gull	57	62±	Sprag Pipit	1	...
*Am Bittern	...	...	Black Tern	1	1	Cedar Waxwing	4	...
*C Goose	...	2	Rock Dove	7	...	Loghd Shrike	1	...
Mallard	8	23	Mourning Dove	1	...	Starling	4	...
Gadwall	...	5	Bl-b Cuckoo	...	...	Red-e Vireo	...	...
Pintail	1	8	Gr H Owl	44	...	Warbl Vireo	...	...
Gr-wgd Teal	...	1	Burrow Owl	...	6	Yellow Wrblr	1	...
Bl-wgd Teal	...	4	Long-ear Owl	6	...	Ovenbird	...	...
Am Widgeon	...	17	Short-ear Owl	1	...	Yellowthroat	...	...
Shoveler	...	3	*Saw-whet Owl	...	...	*Am Redstart	...	...
Redhead	...	2	C Nighthawk	1	...	House Sparrow	36	...
Canvasback	5	17	*B Kingfisher	...	...	Bobolink	...	...
Lesser Scaup	...	1	Y-sh Flicker	5	1	W Meadowlark	5	...
*C Goldeneye	1	...	*Y-b Sapsucker	...	...	Y-h Blkbird	19	...
Ruddy Duck	4	1	Hairy Woodp	...	...	R-w Blkbird	80	...
*Sh-sh Hawk	...	...	Downy Woodp	...	...	Balt Oriole	...	...
*Cooper Hawk	3	...	E Kingbird	2	3	Brwr Blkbird	1	...
R-tail Hawk	22	...	W Kingbird	1	...	Com Grackle	...	...
Swains Hawk	4	...	E Phoebe	...	...	Br-h Cowbird	2	...
*Ferrug Hawk	...	...	Lst Flycatch	...	...	*Pine Siskin	...	...
Marsh Hawk	3	...	Horned Lark	...	2	Am Goldfinch	2	...
*Merlin	...	...	Tree Swallow	...	...	*Red Crssbill	...	...
Spar Hawk	6	...	Bank Swallow	10	18±	Ruf-s Towhee	...	...
Ruffed Grouse	...	...	Barn Swallow	2	1	Lark Bunting	...	...
Sh-t Grouse	...	7	*Cliff Swallow	...	...	Savan Sparrw	...	...
R-n Pheasant	...	1	*Purple Martin	10	...	*Grssh Sparrw	...	...
Gray Part	...	3	*Blue Jay	1	...	Baird Sparrw	...	...
*Virginia Rail	...	...	B-b Magpie	33	...	*LeCnt Sparrw	...	...
Sora	4	1	Common Crow	29	...	Vespr Sparrw	2	...
Am Coot	18	12±	B-c Chickadee	...	...	Lark Sparrw	...	...
*Piping Plov	...	...	*R-b Nuthatch	...	...	Chip Sparrw	...	...
Killdeer	...	4	House Wren	2	...	Cl-col Sparrw	4	...
*L-b Curlew	...	...	L-b Msh Wren	...	...	Song Sparrow	...	...
Upland Plover	...	1	Catbird	...	...	McCown's Longspr	...	...
Spot Sandp	...	...	Br Thrasher	1	...	C-col Longspur	...	...
Total 476 occupied nests			67 species					
245 broods and coveys								

*Rare or irregular (estimated that fewer than five pairs per year laid eggs since 1960).

**Flightless young out of nest or flying young being fed by adult.

Belted Kingfisher, Swainson's Thrush, Ovenbird, Rufous-sided Towhee and Grasshopper Sparrow. And, assuming that we need at least 30 nests, broods and coveys of a species spread over several years to determine breeding dates, clutch and brood sizes, we are

far short of this quota for about 95 of the 116 species that breed in the area.

Changes in breeding status were noted for several species. There were 22 Red-tailed Hawk nests this year and only two in 1966. While part of

this difference can be attributed to increased effort, much of it is due either to a higher population and/or better success. There were six Burrowing Owl broods in 1967 and none last year. Long-eared Owls, which apparently "exploded" in 1966, appeared to be down to about normal numbers this year (18 nests vs. 6). Lark Buntings, which were more common last summer than in any recent year (one colony was estimated to have $100 \pm$ breeding pairs), were almost non-existent this summer. They appeared in normal numbers in May, but after that there was only one report for 1967.

Some interesting nesting situations were reported: A colony of 30 to 40 adult Bank Swallows were occupying burrows in a hole 13 feet long, 9 feet wide and 10 feet deep on July 15. There were 35 holes in the west and north banks (none in the other two) and young were seen at three holes. A House Wren on June 18 had six eggs in an old Barn Swallow's nest in a barn and, on June 12, about 15 House Sparrow nests were found in Bank Swallow holes.

Migration

The largest hawk migrations were reported over the city on April 10 (132 birds, including 105 Buteos) and April 13 (183 birds). Franklin's Gulls were noted migrating on six dates between April 26 and May 22, and the heaviest Black Tern migrations were reported for May 21 and 22. There was a major wave of juncos between April 19 and 23; 1,100+ were reported on the latter date, including 800+ in 55 miles between Saskatoon and Dundurn. On this same trip 200+ Tree Sparrows were recorded. Hermit Thrushes, Harris' and Fox Sparrows were more frequently reported this spring than last. Pine Siskins and White-throated Sparrows, on the other hand, were less common on spring migration but more common in the fall than in 1966. Whistling Swans were also noticeably less common this spring than last. Northern Phalaropes were unusually common: there were

thousands on sloughs between Vonda and Buffer Lake on May 21 and 27.

Comparisons with the spring of 1966 for most species are not practical because the four major contributors last year (J. E. Black, R. V. Folker, J. B. Gollop and J. F. Roy) had to significantly reduce their efforts this year.

On June 12 there was another of the annual, but rare, indications of a movement of Canada Geese through the district to northern molting areas: 14 birds were watched until they disappeared to the north-northeast over the city.

Two large migrations of crows were reported in the fall: 2,800+ birds on October 1 and 7,010+ between 1:15 and 2:50 p.m. on October 8. The major migration of small birds apparently occurred on September 12, 13 and 14. It involved Swainson's Thrushes (49 killed at the TV tower and 33 banded on University Drive), Gray-cheeked Thrushes (21 dead at the TV tower, one banded), Black-and-White, Tennessee and Blackpoll Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrows (7, 7, 21 and 8, respectively, at TV tower), and Ovenbirds (field observations and TV tower).

Sparrow Hawks and Stilt Sandpipers appeared in much smaller numbers than in the 1966 fall migration and no significant nighthawk migration was reported in August or September. On the other hand, Solitary Vireos and Magnolia Warblers were each recorded on five dates in these months; there were no reports for 1966. There were seven Black Duck observations on five dates from August 30 through September 17 and none last year.

Incidentally, the latest date for adult male Cowbirds was July 15; it was July 16, 1966. The latest Baird's Sparrows this year were reported for July 23.

Winter 1966-67

Bohemian Waxwings were present for six months last "winter": November 5, 1966 to May 5, 1967. Based on 58,913 waxwing sightings, the species

reached a peak between December 11 and 31, dropped off significantly to a low between January 21 and 31, increased several-fold in the next 10-day period and maintained that level until April 20 except for a peak smaller than the December one between March 21 and 31. Snowy Owls occurred in their normal low numbers. Not a single Evening Grosbeak was reported last winter.

TV Tower

In 1966 only 22 birds were found dead at the CFQC-TV tower in 13 inspections between August 7 and September 24. In 1967 the tower was checked on seven dates between August 28 and October 7. No birds were found on October 7, 163 were picked up on September 14 and 45 birds on the other five dates. The 191 birds picked up on September 4, 1964 was the only kill to exceed that of September 14, 1967.

In a five-minute period beginning 11:20 p.m. on September 13, 707 bird calls were heard over well-lighted Market Mall in Saskatoon. Five birds were seen flying beneath the parking-lot lights. In a nine-minute period beginning at 5:48 a.m. the next morning, more than 1,600 calls were heard at the TV tower. At 6:25 a.m., 70± birds could be seen flying around the antenna at all heights but concentrated near the top. The latest bird to be killed (by hitting a guy wire) was at 6:27 a.m., and by 7:03 no birds were seen around the tower. The major species in the kill were Swainson's (38) and Gray-cheeked Thrushes (21), Blackpoll Warblers (21) and Ovenbirds (19).

New Species

On April 16 at Beaver Creek, G. O. Michalenko flushed a white phase Gyrfalcon at a distance of about 20 yards. It was observed for about 30 seconds with binoculars in good light; a field guide was available for checking. As the bird flew into the bush its "unowlish wings" were noted and its alarm notes were heard as it was harassed by crows.

On May 28, a male McCown's Longspur was studied for about five minutes as it sang and flew around a small part of a stubble field south of Goose Lake. On July 23 one other bird of this species was positively identified in a flock of 10 longspurs.

On September 3, the first positive identifications were made of Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitchers. One of each was banded at Rice Lake by Stuart Houston.

Large Numbers

This section deals with what are considered to be large numbers of the 31 species and groups listed—either for an entire year or for a particular season. The 66,700± individuals included were all reported in 1967.

Large flocks or concentrations: a flock of 200± White Pelicans flying north over the city on April 28; 5,400+ Whistling Swans on Goose Lake on October 15; 21,000± ducks and 1,100 Sandhill Cranes on the same lake on September 17; 26+ Bufflehead on Blackstrap Reservoir on November 5 and 1,100± Lesser Scaup there on November 12; 89 Gray Partridge on December 23; 3,500± American Coots on Radisson Lake on September 10; 25± Upland Plover near Vonda on May 22; 1,500± dowitchers on Rice Lake on September 1 and 4; 800+ Stilt Sandpipers in Blackstrap Coulee on May 27; 263 Mourning Doves flying to roost west of Dundurn on September 5; 14+ Yellow-shafted Flickers south of the TV tower on August 26; 1,000+ Tree Swallows on September 3 west of Dundurn; 750+ Robins in a 2-mile stretch of road and 300+ in a 3-mile stretch, both near Patience Lake, and 500± in a 55-mile drive between Saskatoon and Dundurn, all on April 23; 350± young House Sparrows in one flock at the Forestry Farm Park on August 22; 10,000± blackbirds and Starlings at Rice Lake on September 10.

Reported one-day counts that were particularly high were as follows: 48 Marsh Hawks and 47 Sparrow Hawks in 120 miles between Saskatoon and Goose Lake on April 23; 630± Rock

Doves on December 26; 9 Snowy Owls on March 3; 15 Short-eared Owls on April 22; 950+ Horned Larks in 33 miles in the Vanscoy-Delisle-Asquith area on March 24; 10 Black-capped Chickadees on March 2 and September 9 and 41 on December 26; 67 Mountain Bluebirds on March 24 and 145 on August 29; 75+ Myrtle Warblers on May 21; 181 Western Meadowlarks in 130 miles southwest of Saskatoon on May 28; 42 Savannah Sparrows banded at Rice Lake on September 4; 12,000± Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings (a few) on May 21 between Vonda and Buffer Lake, and 4,500± Snow Buntings on April 8.

Stragglers, Rarities and Other Abnormal Birds

This section has been restricted to the 25 species reported only once or twice in 1967. They total 83 individuals. Except as noted in parentheses, there was a single bird per date.

Black-crowned Night Heron on April 23, Ross' Goose on September 9 and 17 (6), Cinnamon Teal on June 11, Turkey Vulture on May 31, Broad-winged Hawk on April 24 and August 26 (2), Prairie Falcon on May 18, Peregrine Falcon on May 7 and 14, Virginia Rail on September 9 (2), Piping Plover on May 27 (2) and June 4, Ruddy Turnstone on May 27 (13), Knot on May 21 (5), White-rumped Sandpiper on May 27 (20+) and June 10, Dunlin on May 27, Buff-breasted Sandpiper on May 27 (2), Hudsonian Godwit on May 18 (5), Black-billed Cuckoo on June 11 and

July 16 (much less common than in 1966), Saw-whet Owl on February 7, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on August 23 and 27, Western Wood Pewee on June 11, Olive-sided Flycatcher on May 26, Boreal Chickadee on February 14 and 15, Brown Creeper on April 29 and December 23, Townsend's Solitaire on April 22 and September 22-24, Nashville Warbler on September 12 (banded), Grasshopper Sparrow on June 15.

Single partial albino House Sparrows were seen on May 6, September 13 and February 1-20. Single Brewer's Blackbirds with a few pure white feathers were reported for June 12 and September 2.

Habitat Changes

Tree clearing has continued at a rapid rate. The Hudson Bay Slough was largely destroyed to make way for a divided highway. On the other hand, three permanent bodies of water were created in and adjacent to the Saskatoon district. Brightwater Reservoir is on Beaver Creek just south of the district, while Blackstrap Reservoir, east of Dundurn, and Bradwell Reservoir, south of Bradwell, are within the area.

STEVE A. MANN

As we go to press we learn of the death on August 10 of Steve Mann, Piapot. His many friends in the SNHS send heartfelt condolences to his wife and family.

EIGHTH ANNUAL MAY BIRD CENSUS, REGINA

Regina's annual May bird count was taken on May 11, 1968. A rather disappointing total of 131 species and 15,145 individual birds was reported. Several factors contributed to this low species count which incidentally equals the previous low, recorded on

the first annual count in 1961; the earliest possible date (we count on the Saturday prior to the long weekend in May) eliminated a number of warblers and other species which do not usually arrive until after mid-May; probably more significant was

the extremely bad migratory weather in the five days previous to our count (very cool temperatures and strong N.W. winds). An indication of just how tricky it is to catch the species as they move north is this observation by the author; the strong S.E. wind which sprang up the night prior to the count brought in good numbers of Swainson's and Gray-cheeked thrush and large numbers of the later sparrows, in two specific locations; the same areas checked on the following day showed only the odd straggler remaining.

Of some concern was the almost total absence of owls; only one Great Horned Owl and no nests were found in the area, no Long or Short-eared were counted; only the Burrowing Owl numbers were up, 11 compared to three in 1967. Other species showing marked declines included the following; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—two compared to 70 in 1967; Purple Finch—four to 23 in 1967; Tree Swallow—26 to 110 in 1967; McCown's Longspurs—13 compared to 228 in 1967. Species whose numbers were considerably up included Redhead Duck, American Coot, Marbled Godwit, Franklin's Gull, Horned Lark, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird; Chipping, Clay-colored, Harris', White-crowned, White-throated, Lincoln and Swamp sparrows and the Lapland Longspur which jumped to 5695 from 1179 in 1967.

Of special interest were two species seen in the city—one Blue Jay and one White-breasted Nuthatch; and reported from the Flying Creek valley was the Eastern Wood Pewee—the bird was not seen but was identified by its distinctive call. The Western Wood Pewee is a common transient and occasional resident, the Eastern has not previously been reported in the area.

SPECIES LIST (numbers in parentheses are those of May 13, 1967, presented for comparison):

Horned Grebe, 71 (78); Eared Grebe, 66 (121); Western Grebe, 41 (58); Pied-billed Grebe, 15 (8); Great Blue Heron, 2 (3); American Bittern, 2 (6); Mute Swan, 2 (2); Whistling

Swan, 34 (748); Canada Goose, 305 (245); Mallard, 332 and 10 eggs (353); Gadwall, 94 (40); Pintail, 64 (370); Green-winged Teal, 25 (37); Blue-winged Teal, 147 (171); Widgeon, 175 (102); Shoveler, 70 (378); Redhead, 170 (42); Ring-necked Duck, 2 (7); Canvasback, 86 (94); Lesser Scaup, 355 (1158); Common Goldeneye, 1 (8); Bufflehead, 11 (6); White-winged Scoter, 1 (0); Ruddy Duck, 43 (83); Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1 (1); Red-tailed Hawk, 5 (5); Broad-winged Hawk, 1 (3); Swainson's Hawk, 6 (13); Rough-legged Hawk, 1 (7); Marsh Hawk, 33 (38); Sparrow Hawk, 2 (72); Gray Partridge, 5 (2); Sandhill Crane, 6 (0); Sora, 8 (14); American Coot, 460 (227); Semipalmated Plover, 38 (17); Piping Plover, 1 (0); Killdeer, 153 (157); Black-bellied Plover, 1 (1); Spotted Sandpiper, 22 (24); Solitary Sandpiper, 25 (119); Willet, 55 (34); Greater Yellowlegs, 7 (82); Lesser Yellowlegs, 50 (416); Pectoral Sandpiper, 83 (830); White rumped Sandpiper, 1 (43); Baird's Sandpiper, 46 (50); Least Sandpiper, 19 (82); Dowitcher, 16 (63); Semipalmated Sandpiper, 9 (1); Marbled Godwit, 29 (3); Sanderling, 7 (8); Avocet, 38 (53); Wilson's Phalarope, 22 (41); Ring-billed Gull, 106 (109); Franklin's Gull, 238 (125); Common Tern, 22 (44); Black Tern, 10 (30); Rock Dove, 57 (51); Mourning Dove, 40 (49); Great Horned Owl, 1 (9); Burrowing Owl, 11 (3); Saw-whet Owl, 1 (0); Belted Kingfisher, 11 (11); Yellow-shafted Flicker, 42 (55); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2 (70); Downy Woodpecker, 3 (0); Western Kingbird, 6 (1); Eastern Phoebe, 6 (1); Least Flycatcher, 3 (1); Eastern Wood Pewee, 1 (0); Horned Lark, 572 (338); Tree Swallow, 26 (110); Barn Swallow, 10 (21); Cliff Swallow, 1 (1); Purple Martin, 32 (12); Blue Jay, 1 (0); Black-billed Magpie, 42 (61); Common Crow, 105 (157); Black-capped Chickadee, 1 (3); White-breasted Nuthatch, 1 (0); Brown Creeper, 1 (1); House Wren, 1 (0); Brown Thrasher, 3 (0); Robin, 169 (666); Hermit Thrush, 2 (9); Swainson's Thrush, 200 (467); Gray-cheeked Thrush, 93 (71); Eastern Bluebird, 1 (0); Mountain Bluebird, 3 (4); Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 11 (4); Water Pipit, 23 (5); Bohemian Waxwing, 1 (0); Loggerhead Shrike, 17 (54); Starling, 32 (43); Orange-crowned Warbler, 21 (31); Yellow Warbler, 9 (6); Myrtle Warbler, 204 (90); Blackpoll Warbler, 1 (3); Palm Warbler, 13 (0); Northern Waterthrush, 6 (38); Yellowthroat, 1 (0); Redstart, 1 (0); House Sparrow, 669 (438); Western Meadowlark, 276 (273); Yellow-headed Blackbird, 192 (23); Red-winged Blackbird, 698 (927); Baltimore Oriole, 1 (0); Rusty Blackbird, 2 (2); Brewer's Blackbird, 487 (573); Common Grackle, 179 (23); Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1 (3); Purple Finch, 4 (23); Rufous-sided Towhee, 3 (8); Savannah Sparrow, 55 (48); LeConte's Sparrow, 1 (0); Vesper Sparrow, 82 (38); Slate-colored Junco, 7 (64); Tree Sparrow, 1 (30); Chipping Sparrow, 144 (27); Clay-colored Sparrow, 160 (7); Harris' Sparrow, 177 (60); White-crowned Sparrow, 263 (233); White-throated Sparrow, 212 (194); Lincoln's Sparrow, 168 (68); Swamp Sparrow, 11 (0); Song Sparrow, 21 (24); McCown's Longspur, 13 (228); Lapland Longspur, 5695 (1179); Chestnut-collared Longspur, 55 (16).

Total species, 131. Total individuals, 15,145. Count totals and report compiled by Al and Betty Binnie, Regina.

COOPERATIVE SPRING MIGRATION STUDY, 1968

Compiled by
MARY HOUSTON
 863 University Drive
 Saskatoon

Whistling Swan	DILKE J. B. Belcher	ERINFERRY E. A. Dodd (Mrs.)	ESK R. F. Klatt	FORT SAN E. M. Callin	INDIAN HEAD L. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Skinner	KELVINGTON Dianne Sloane	KELVINGTON Steve Waychesen	LEADER Daisy Meyers	LUCKY LAKE E. Boon (Mrs.)	NIPAWIN Stan & David Riome	NOKOMIS J. W. & Kay Hamilton
Canada Goose	Mr 26	Ap 20	Ap 5	Mr 31	Mr 17	Mr 27	Mr 23	Mr 5	Mr 24	Mr 26	-----
Mallard	Mr 30	Ap 12	Mr 27	Ap 3	Mr 23	Ap 9	Ap 6	-----	Mr 27	Ap 9	-----
Pintail	Mr 26	Ap 20	Ap 15	Ap 13	Mr 23	Ap 9	Ap 6	-----	Mr 23	Ap 11	-----
Marsh Hawk	Mr 31	-----	Ap 16	Ap 11	Mr 22	-----	Ap 12	-----	Ap 2	Mr 31	-----
Killdeer	Ap 10	-----	Ap 23	Ap 12	Mr 21	Ap 11	Ap 10	Ap 17	Ap 18	Ap 17	My 18
Common Snipe	-----	My 12	-----	Ap 27	Ap 28	-----	Ap 20	-----	-----	Ap 27	-----
Mourning Dove	My 6	My 12	My 25	Ap 15	Ap 20	Ap 30	Ap 22	Ap 22	My 10	Ap 19	Ap 28
Common Nighthawk	-----	My 5	-----	Jn 3	Jn 2	My 26	Jn 1	-----	-----	Jn 2	-----
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-----	-----	My 26	My 22	My 26	My 27	-----	-----	-----	My 26	-----
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Ap 28	-----	Ap 22	Ap 19	Ap 20	Ap 19	Ap 19	-----	-----	Ap 25	Ap 24
Eastern Kingbird	My 25	Jn 2	My 26	My 23	My 12	Jn 2	Jn 2	-----	My 14	My 26	My 26
Eastern Phoebe	-----	Ap 28	-----	My 5	My 8	Ap 25	Ap 29	-----	-----	Ap 21	My 10

Barn Swallow	My 6	My 12	My 19	My 15	My 2	My 14	My 18	-----	My 15	My 12	My 14
Purple Martin	-----	-----	Jn 6	My 25	My 10	-----	My 13	-----	-----	Jn 5	Ap 29
Common Crow	Mr 14	Mr 24	Mr 22	Mr 14	Mr 13	Mr 22	Mr 10	Mr 5	Mr 27	Mr 22	Mr 31
House Wren	-----	-----	My 20	My 12	My 13	My 15	My 12	-----	-----	My 16	My 19
Catbird	-----	-----	Jn 1	My 22	My 26	My 26	My 31	-----	-----	Jn 5	-----
Brown Thrasher	My 16	-----	My 21	My 13	My 12	-----	-----	My 21	My 13	-----	My 19
Red-eyed Vireo	-----	-----	-----	My 26	My 31	-----	My 17	-----	-----	Jn 1	-----
Black-and-white Warbler	-----	-----	-----	My 25	My 14	Ap 25	-----	-----	-----	My 24	-----
Tennessee Warbler	-----	-----	-----	My 26	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	My 25	-----
Yellow Warbler	-----	-----	-----	My 21	My 14	My 15	My 14	-----	-----	My 15	My 14
Myrtle Warbler	My 8	My 29	-----	My 3	Ap 27	My 14	Ap 19	-----	-----	Ap 19	My 10
Blackpoll Warbler	-----	-----	-----	My 26	-----	-----	My 23	-----	-----	My 23	-----
Ovenbird	-----	-----	-----	My 25	-----	My 15	My 14	-----	-----	My 19	-----
American Redstart	-----	-----	-----	My 25	My 20	-----	-----	-----	-----	My 24	-----
Bobolink	-----	-----	-----	My 25	My 20	Jn 16	-----	-----	-----	Jn 22	My 25
Red-winged Blackbird	Ap 10	My 1	Ap 25	Ap 19	Ap 5	Ap 14	Ap 6	Ap 20	Ap 4	Ap 17	Ap 22
Baltimore Oriole	My 14	-----	My 20	My 14	My 14	My 24	Jn 1	My 28	-----	My 7	My 22
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-----	-----	-----	My 14	Jn 3	-----	My 8	-----	-----	My 23	-----
American Goldfinch	-----	Jn 13	My 22	My 18	My 13	My 21	My 22	-----	-----	Jn 1	My 21
Slate-colored Junco	Mr 31	Mr 29	Ap 7	Ap 1	Mr 24	Mr 30	Mr 31	Ap 7	-----	Ap 4	-----
Chipping Sparrow	My 10	My 5	-----	Ap 27	My 6	Ap 23	-----	-----	-----	My 12	-----
White-crowned Sparrow	-----	My 6	-----	My 1	My 4	My 4	-----	-----	-----	My 7	My 28
White-throated Sparrow	-----	-----	-----	My 4	Ap 29	My 11	My 12	-----	-----	My 5	My 8

COOPERATIVE SPRING MIGRATION STUDY, 1968

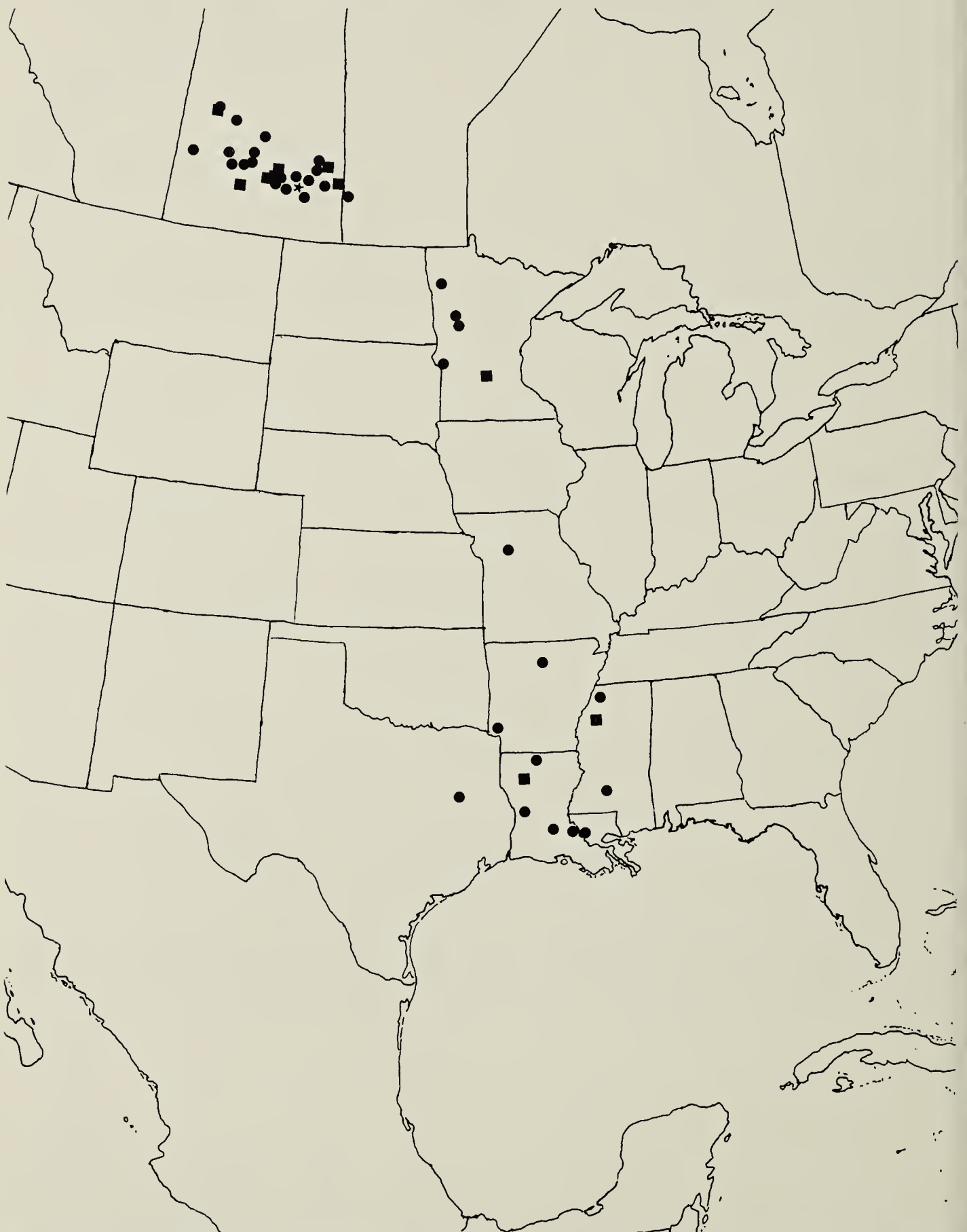
Compiled by
MARY HOUSTON
 863 University Drive
 Saskatoon.

Whistling Swan	RAYMORE Wayne Harris	REGINA Betty Binnie Regina N.H.S.	SKULL CREEK S. A. Mann	SASKATOON J. B. Gollop and Saskatoon N.H.S.	SHEHO William Niven	SOVEREIGN G. Winney (Mrs.)	YELLOW CREEK Darwin Mazur	YELLOW CREEK Derwent Mazur	YELLOW CREEK Bohdan Pylpec		ROBLIN, MAN. Gary Dillin
Canada Goose	Mr 25	Mr 30	Mr 2	Mr 26	Mr 20	Mr 29	Ap 7	Ap 5	Mr 27		Ap 3
Mallard	Mr 30	Mr 22	Mr 10	Mr 27	Mr 26	Mr 6	Ap 5	Ap 5	Ap 6		Ap 6
Pintail	Mr 28	Mr 22	Mr 18	Mr 24	Mr 27	Ap 16	Ap 5	Ap 5	Mr 27		Ap 12
Marsh Hawk	Ap 2	Mr 22	Mr 19	Mr 15	Mr 25	Ap 7	Ap 12	Ap 6	Ap 8		Ap 3
Kildeer	Ap 4	Ap 11	Mr 12	Mr 29	Ap 10	Ap 29	Ap 10	Ap 10	Ap 13		Ap 10
Common Snipe	Ap 21	Ap 28	My 11	Ap 10	Ap 18	-----	My 2	My 5	Ap 26		-----
Mourning Dove	Ap 29	Ap 20	Ap 22	Ap 8	Ap 22	My 25	My 2	Ap 29	My 20		Ap 19
Common Nighthawk	Jn 3	-----	-----	My 31	Jn 1	Ap 19	My 26	My 28	-----		My 31
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Jn 5	-----	-----	My 25	My 27	-----	My 29	My 31	Jn 3		My 30
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Ap 19	Ap 13	Ap 15	Mr 24	Ap 19	Ap 20	Ap 20	Ap 24	Ap 23		Ap 19
Eastern Kingbird	My 20	My 21	My 23	My 15	My 22	My 16	My 24	My 23	Jn 6		My 25
Eastern Phoebe	Ap 28	My 11	-----	My 25	Ap 28	-----	Ap 27	Ap 27	Ap 26		My 10

Barn Swallow	My 1	Ap 29	My 1	My 3	My 13	My 25	My 12	My 12	My 16	My 1
Purple Martin	My 15	-----	-----	My 10	My 17	-----	My 14	My 8	My 9	-----
Common Crow	Mr 16	Mr 15	Mr 14	Mr 13	Mr 14	Mr 20	Mr 25	Mr 23	Mr 26	Mr 24
House Wren	My 15	My 6	My 14	My 9	My 14	-----	My 12	My 12	My 17	My 13
Catbird	My 29	My 23	Jul 7	My 19	My 25	My 6	Jn 2	Jn 6	Jn 6	My 25
Brown Thrasher	My 20	My 6	My 17	My 12	My 15	My 12	Jn 2	My 23	-----	-----
Red-eyed Vireo	Jn 2	My 28	Jn 5	My 10	My 20	-----	-----	-----	My 22	-----
Black-and-white Warbler	My 19	My 21	-----	My 18	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Tennessee Warbler	My 18	My 16	-----	My 17	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Yellow Warbler	My 20	My 9	My 20	My 8	My 22	My 7	Jn 7	Jn 9	Jn 1	My 25
Myrtle Warbler	My 1	Ap 11	My 10	Ap 20	My 6	My 6	My 7	My 7	Ap 30	Ap 23
Blackpoll Warbler	-----	My 15	-----	My 15	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Ovenbird	My 20	My 20	Jn 5	My 25	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
American Redstart	-----	My 20	-----	My 25	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bobolink	-----	My 27	Jn 8	My 25	Jn 9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Red-winged Blackbird	Ap 5	Ap 5	Mr 25	Ap 7	Ap 12	Ap 13	Ap 14	Ap 7	Ap 19	Ap 3
Baltimore Oriole	My 29	My 11	My 21	My 17	My 23	My 26	My 17	My 24	My 23	-----
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	My 26	My 13	My 23	My 16	My 16	-----	-----	My 23	Jn 5	-----
American Goldfinch	My 20	My 18	My 20	My 23	My 24	My 26	My 25	My 24	My 27	My 24
Slate-colored Junco	Mr 20	Mr 24	Mr 21	Mr 26	Mr 30	Ap 13	Ap 6	Mr 31	Ap 5	Mr 29
Chipping Sparrow	My 11	My 5	My 15	My 6	My 23	My 9	Ap 14	Ap 29	My 27	My 13
White-crowned Sparrow	My 19	My 1	My 4	My 3	My 2	My 1	My 7	My 6	My 3	-----
White-throated Sparrow	My 8	Ap 27	-----	My 3	My 6	My 3	My 7	My 10	My 7	My 5

RECOVERIES OF BRONZED GRACKLES BANDED IN SASKATCHEWAN

by **C. Stuart Houston**, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon
(from files of Canadian Wildlife Service)



Recoveries of Bronzed Grackles banded in Saskatchewan (excluding those recovered at banding locality). Note: Squares represent direct recoveries (same year). Circles represent subsequent years. Star represents more than one recovery at a given location.

From the recoveries to date, Saskatchewan grackles seem to have a remarkably narrow migration pathway, following the west side of the Mississippi River to winter in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. Of the 19 recoveries outside Saskatchewan, only three were "direct" (the same year), although another five occurred early in the next year before the grackles had returned north.

The writer's own recovery rate of 6.3% is remarkably high and comparable to the 5.3%, 6.3% and 8.8% obtained by Lloyd, Carter and Carter respectively and much higher than Lang's 2.8%. This is surprising since band recovery rates tended to be significantly higher in the earlier years of banding than they are now. Perhaps this is compensated for by the early banders having included many nestlings which failed to reach maturity and by a higher recovery rate for grackles banded in cities than in rural areas. Note how many of the grackles

have been shot, even in recent years.

In addition to the recoveries, there is a further category called "returns"; these are birds retrapped by the bander at the same locality in succeeding years. John R. Carter had three 1-year returns at Muscow; Bard had two 1-year returns at Regina; Houston at Yorkton had three at 1 year, three at 2 years and two at 4 years; at Saskatoon, four at 1 year, one at 2 years and one at 4 years.

Previous species (hawks and colonial birds) reported in this series needed no age designation since all were banded as flightless young. In the following table it is necessary to designate A for adult, I for immature and U for unknown age. Within Saskatchewan, only recoveries outside the 7 by 11 mile local quadrant have been mapped and listed in detail; even then, a star had to be used to represent five circles at Qu'Appelle - Fort Qu'Appelle.

Banded by Reuben Lloyd, Davidson, Sask. (511-1055) (168 banded):

- June 19/23. U. Retrapped May 24/24 (-1 yr.) Ortonville, Minn. (451-0962).
- Aug. 1/23. U. In building Aug. 4/25 (2 yr.) Kenaston, Sask. (513-1061).
- June 8/27. I. Drowned July 19/29 (2 yr.) Loreburn, Sask. (511-1063).
- July 22/29. U. Drowned July 17/32 (-3 yr.) Bladworth, Sask. (512-1060).

Plus the following local recoveries: 1 shot, 1 killed by cat and 1 found dead the same year; 2 found dead the following year.

Banded by George H. Lang, Indian Head (503-1034) (461 banded):

- June 13/24. U. Shot March 20/25 (-1 yr.) Lockesburg, Ark. (335-0940).
- July 21/26. A. Band found Dec. 22/29 (3 yr.) Leesville, La. (310-0931).
- June 26/27. I. Shot April/30 (-3 yr.) Sintaluta, Sask. (502-1032).
- June 23/28. I. Shot May 20/33 (-5 yr.) Sintaluta, Sask. (502-1032).
- June 7/32. I. Shot Oct. 23/32 (direct) Hutchison, Minn. (445-0942).

Plus the following local recoveries: 2 shot, 3 killed by cat and 4 found dead the same year; 1 band found over 3 years later.

Banded by R. H. Carter, Jr., Muscow, Sask. (504-1035) (80 banded):

- July 12/24. A. Band found late June/27 (-3 yr.) Lemberg (504-1031).
- Aug. 7/27. A. By dog late May/28 (-1 yr.) Lipton, Sask. (505-1035).
- May 20/28. A. Shot Sept. 3/29 (1 yr.) Zehner, Sask. (503-1042).
- May 27/28. A. Shot Jan. 17/31 (-3 yr.) Bernice, La. (324-0924).
- July 6/30. I. Found dead April 17/33 (-3 yr.) Carrollton, Mo. (392-0933).

Banded by Philip Siemens, Hepburn, Sask. (523-1064):

- May 1/28. A. Injured June 27/29 (1 yr.) North Battleford (524-1081).
- May 10/29. A. Found dead Aug. 1/33 (4 yr.) Borden, Sask. (522-1071).

Banded by John R. Carter, Muscow, Sask. (504-1035) (91 banded):

- May 5/29. A. Shot Dec. 23/29 (direct) Hall Summit, La. (321-0931).
- Apr. 28/29. A. Shot April 30/33 (4 yr.) Ft. Qu'Appelle (504-1034).

May 5/29. A. By cat June 7/30 (1 yr.) Qu'Appelle (503-1035).
June 10/29. A. Found dead June 28/30 (1 yr.) Ft. Qu'Appelle, Sask.
Apr. 20/30. A. Shot July 4/31 (1 yr.) Qu'Appelle, Sask. (503-1035).
Apr. 27/30. A. Shot Dec. 1/32 (2 yr.) in Texas (314-0953).
May 14/30. A. Shot July 11/31 (1 yr.) Fort Qu'Appelle (504-1034).
Plus one local recovery: one shot a year later.

Banded by J. A. Briggs, probably NE of Regina, Sask.

June 6/30. A. Shot April 19/33 (-3 yr.) in Minnesota (463-0953).

Banded by Bill and Lindsay Wotherspoon, Hvas (515-1021) (7 banded):
One local recovery: banded May 4/34; caught in muskrat trap May 10/35.

Banded by J. H. Goosen, Dalmeny, Sask. (522-1064):

One local recovery: banded May 11/35; shot June 11/36.

Banded by Fred G. Bard

Near Meota, Sask. (530-1082):

June 14/35. A. Shot Sept. 19/36 (1 yr.) in Minnesota (464-0954).

June 18/38. I. Shot June 25/38 (direct) N. Battleford (524-1081).

June 18/38. I. Sick May 21/39 (-1 yr.) Regina, Sask. (502-1043).

Plus the local recoveries: 2 shot the same year and one shot 3 years later;
band found 2 yrs. later.

Near Valeport, Sask. (504-1045):

June 9/37. A. Drowned late July/37 (direct) W. of Gibbs (505-1050).

Near Regina, Sask. (502-1043):

July 16/36. I. Shot early Oct./36 (direct) Strasbourg (510-1045).

June 5/37. A. Drowned Aug. 11/39 (2 yr.) Valeport, Sask. (504-1045).

June 12/38. I. Shot July 30/38 (direct) Valeport, Sask. (504-1045).

June 16/38. A. Shot late July/40 (2 yr.) Valeport, Sask. (504-1045).

June 12/38. A. Found dead Feb. 3/40 (-2 yr.) in Louisiana (301-0910).

Banded by F. J. H. Fredeen, Macrorie, Sask. (511-1070):

Aug. 24/39. U. Shot Dec. 1/41 (2 yr.) in Arkansas (355-0922).

Aug. 26/39. U. Band found Jan. 31/40 (-1 yr.) in Mississippi (313-0900).

Aug. 26/39. U. Found dead Oct./40 (1 yr.) Surbiton, Sask. (512-1071).

Banded by C. Stuart Houston (460 banded)

At Yorkton, Sask. (511-1022):

July 15/46. I. Found dead Aug. 25/46 (direct) Ebenezer (512-1022).

Aug. 7/46. I. Found dead June 14/47 (-1 yr.) Lestock, Sask. (511-1035).

Aug. 8/47. I. Shot Sept. 14/47 (direct) Langenburg, Sask. (505-1014).

May 22/50. A. Shot before Dec. 29/50 (direct) Webb, Miss. (335-0902).

Sept. 16/51. I. Shot June 16/53 (-2 yr.) Springside, Sask. (512-1024).

July 4/52. I. Shot May 3/53 (-1 yr.) Birtle, Manitoba (502-1010).

July 15/52. I. Shot Feb. 17/55 (-3 yr.) Baton Rouge, La. (302-0911).

July 26/52. U. Shot late Dec./54 (2 yr.) Euclid, Minn. (475-0963).

Aug. 20/54. U. Injured June 23/56 (-2 yr.) Bangor, Sask. (504-1022).

Plus the following local recoveries: 2 found dead the same year; found dead 1,
2 and 4 years later and band found 2 years later.

At Saskatoon, Sask. (520-1063):

May 2/61. A. By cat May 16/64 (3 yr.) Meacham, Sask. (520-1054).

May 14/61. A. Shot April 21/63 (-2 yr.) Kindersley, Sask. (512-1090).

June 3/62. A. Shot Jan. 24/63 (-1 yr.) Senatobia, Miss. (343-0900).

Sept. 13/63. U. Shot June 14/64 (-1 yr.) Asquith, Sask. (520-1071).

Sept. 25/63. I. Found dead Oct. 5/63 (direct) NE of Ernfold (503-1064).

Apr. 28/64. A. Shot Jan. 23/66 (-2 yr.) Ville Platte, La. (303-0921).

Plus the following local recoveries: 4 found dead the same year; found dead one
year later; hit object one year later; shot 1 and 2 years later.

NOTE: 303-0921 means 30° 30' north and 92° 10' west.

FIRST REPORTS OF EASTERN WOOD PEWEE FOR SASKATCHEWAN

by E. Manley Callin, Fort San

About 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 22, 1968 at Fort San, I sat on the edge of my bed and prepared to dress for the day. Suddenly, through the open window, I heard the notes of a pewee. However, it was not the short, plaintive and husky "peeyee" of the Western Wood Pewee with which I am familiar. Instead, it was much longer, drawn out in the three syllables of "pee - a - wee", and was clear and sweet compared to our usual pewee. I realized immediately that I was listening to the Eastern Wood Pewee. I quickly put on my dressing gown and slippers, grabbed my binoculars and hurried in the direction of the sound. The bird was still calling and was easily found about 200 yards north of our house in a grove of poplars in a small coulee. It was off to the right of the pathway and perched on the tip of a dead branch about halfway up in one of the poplars. It was then about 25 yards from me with no obstruction of the view and, even with the naked eye, it was obvious that the size, colour and posture of the bird was right for a pewee. I raised my binoculars but had no opportunity to examine the plumage details before it flew after a passing insect, then settled on the uppermost tip of a dead poplar a little farther away; here it called once, then flew off to the south and disappeared from view.

During this elapsed time, probably about 10 minutes, I had heard the bird call at least 15 times and at no time did it have the husky or harsh quality of the Western. On two or three occasions it uttered a shorter "pee-ur" call but these notes were also clear and sweet like the longer call. Upon returning to the house I played Peterson's "Guide to Western Bird Songs", which served to confirm my conviction as to identity. Actually, I was struck by the fact that the calls

of the Fort San bird were even more distinctive than those on the recording as they were more drawn out and the syllables were therefore more clearly separated.

I thought that the bird had left the area but about 10:30 a.m. I was outside and heard the calls coming faintly from heavier, mixed woods to the south. During the next 15 minutes I heard the calls about 10 times but was not successful in finding the bird again. It seemed to be moving about considerably and eventually the calls ceased. The bird evidently moved on as it was not seen or heard again after that day.

No specimen or recording of the Eastern Wood Pewee has ever been taken in Saskatchewan and, prior to 1968, there are apparently no reports of the species in the province. Therefore, the species does not appear on the official list of Saskatchewan birds. According to Godfrey (*Birds of Canada*, 1966), the regular range of the Eastern extends only to south-central Manitoba where there is some overlapping of the ranges of the two species (of eight specimens recently taken at the south end of Lake Winnipeg, seven were of the Eastern and one was of the Western species). In view of the proximity of the range of the Eastern, it is surprising that it has not yet been established as occurring in adjacent parts of Saskatchewan. It seems rather likely that a few Eastern Wood Pewee occasionally wander into southeastern Saskatchewan but are missed by observers through lack of familiarity with the difference in calls of the two species.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In view of Mr. Callin's observation of an Eastern Wood Pewee at Fort San in the Qu'Appelle Valley, it is interesting to note the record of this species, seen and heard giving its distinctive call, in the Flying Creek Valley in the Regina May Bird Census, May 11, 1968, by Al and Betty Binnie (see page 131).

SOME OBSERVATIONS OF LONG-TAILED JAEGERS IN EARLY AND LATE NESTING SEASONS

by **Edgar T. Jones**, 6115 - 141st St., Edmonton, Alberta

During the 1966 and 1967 nesting seasons I was filming and working in the Cambridge Bay to Albert Edward Bay regions of Victoria Island, north of Coronation Gulf in the central Canadian Arctic. Since these two nesting seasons were completely different from each other, the following observations of Long-tailed Jaegers (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) could be of interest. The 1966 season was early, with favorable weather conditions for breeding birds. The 1967 season was two to three weeks later, because of unseasonably cold weather.

The Long-tailed Jaeger during 1966 was a relatively common breeder in the area. Pairs were dispersed roughly one to three miles apart, particularly in the coastal regions. The shorebird populations, on which the Jaeger depends so much, were at a high density with all species present breeding commonly during the first two weeks

of July. I found Long-tailed Jaeger nests, each with two eggs, on July 5, 12 and 15. One Pomarine Jaeger and one Parasitic Jaeger nest, each with two eggs, were located on July 10, the Pomarine eggs were pipped. The location of the Long-tailed Jaeger nests was in typical high, barren rocky tundra 50 to 200 feet back from tundra ponds. Adults attacked constantly while the nest was approached and territories were easily located.

In 1967, presumably due to the weather, the Long-tailed Jaeger behaved quite differently. The same areas as in 1966 were visited from July 10 to July 25 and only on July 21 was a nest found (with one egg only). The significant point to me was that there was little if any territorial behaviour. Even the pair with the single egg seemed only mildly interested in defending their territory and after a few dives flew off unconcerned.



Long-tailed Jaeger at nest

Kodachrome by Edgar T. Jones

Non-breeding birds seemed to be everywhere and on one occasion a flock of 13 was seen coursing the tundra. It is significant that both lemming and breeding shorebird populations were very much lower in numbers from the 1966 nesting period. It was also noted that both Snowy Owls and Rough-legged Hawks were rare in the 1967 season, yet both nested in 1966. It appears from these observations that in late seasons and when lemming and shorebird populations are low jaegers do not breed.

Arctic vertebrate populations typically fluctuate greatly in numbers. Pitelka (1959) has commented on variations in shorebird populations at Barrow, Alaska and Pitelka, Tomich and Treichel (1955) have discussed the relationship of jaegers and owls to the brown lemming population at

Barrow. Non-breeding of Long-tailed Jaegers in a year following a lemming high was reported in northeast Greenland by Manniche (1910).

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ANNUAL MAY DAY BIRD COUNT, SASKATOON

by J. F. Roy, 120 Maple St., Saskatoon

This year, 42 observers in eight parties established a record of 146 species, one more than on May 27, 1967, when 29 observers recorded 145 species. The early morning birding was best. By 10 a.m. a strong SSE wind had sprung up, and for the rest of the day the wind ranged from 20 to 30 miles per hour. Temperatures ranged from 47° at 5 a.m. to a high of 74°. The sky was clear at first, becoming partially clouded in the afternoon with widely scattered showers. Observers drove a total of 1178 party-miles and logged 43 party-miles on foot.

The area covered in the annual May count is a square block consisting of 100 townships (3,600 square miles) centering on Saskatoon. Obviously, complete coverage of an area this size is impossible, but we are refining our techniques in an attempt to cover representative sections of all types of habitat, in addition to canvassing every major slough, lake and reservoir in the region. As usual, the area was divided into quadrants but this

year, for the first time, we had enough participants to field eight separate parties. Among the innovations was an attempt to count all individuals of 18 common species: Mallard, Coot, Willet, Marbled Godwit, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Eastern Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Magpie, Crow, Mountain Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike, Yellow Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, and Clay-colored Sparrow. In addition, all individuals of every other species were counted until a total of 25 was reached; beyond that number, flocks of 50 or more were recorded. To facilitate counting, we prepared two sheets, both listing birds in alphabetic order rather than in A.O.U. sequence. Further changes may be introduced next year. In all likelihood, we will record total numbers only for those species readily observable from a moving car or gathered in large flocks on bodies of water. The idea is to increase our knowledge of changes in bird popula-

tion from year to year without, at the same time, making the count so demanding that participants have to forego the pleasure of a day afield in the attempt to record every one of the thousands of birds that flit across their field of vision. After ten hours, even the most ardent bird-watcher gets a little exasperated adding yet another Yellow Warbler or Clay-colored Sparrow to the list!

Among the highlights of this year's count were Jim Hogg's discovery of the nest of a Common Snipe in the SE quadrant, a new breeding record for Saskatoon; a record number of 137 Buff-breasted Sandpipers, observed in three of the four quadrants; a single Forster's Tern at Pike Lake; a Red-headed Woodpecker in the SE quadrant; a total of 210 Lark Buntings, indicating the second influx in ten years of a normally uncommon species; and five McCown's Longspurs, a species first recorded in the Saskatoon area in 1967. The warbler count was particularly disappointing, only nine species being observed. It appears to be an off-year for owls as well: only one Burrowing, one Long-eared, and one Short-eared Owl were reported. Despite the late date, no Black-billed Cuckoos, Nighthawks, Red-eyed Vireos, or Goldfinches were recorded. Both Cedar Waxwings and Long-billed Marsh Wrens were seen on the day following the count.

Species by region for Annual May Day Count, Saskatoon, May 25, 1968

Compiled by A. L. Nijssen and W. S. Richards

Species	Grand Total	Quadrant Totals			
		SW	NW	NE	SE
Red-nk Grebe	2	x			x
Horned Grebe	107+	x	x	x	x
Eared Grebe	50	x	x	x	x
West Grebe	12	x		x	x
Pied-b Grebe	17	x	x	x	x
Dc Cormorant	6	x			x
Gr Bl Heron	2		x		x
Am Bittern	5+	x		x	x
Wh Swan	3	x			
C Goose	3	x			x
*Mallard	671	x	N	N	x
Gadwall	143+	x	x	x	x

Species	Grand Total	Quadrant Totals			
		SW	NW	NE	SE
Pintail	294+	x	x	x	x
Gr-wgd Teal	51+	x	x	x	x
Bl-wgd Teal	220+	x	x	x	x
Am Widgeon	241+	x	x	x	x
Shoveler	306+	x	x	x	x
Redhead	109+	x	x	x	x
Ring-nk Duck	4	x		x	x
Canvasback	267+	x	N	x	x
Lesser Scaup	91+	x	x	x	x
C Goldeneye	11	x			x
Bufflehead	8	x	x	x	x
Wh-wg Scoter	3	x			
Ruddy Duck	133+	x	x	x	x
Cooper Hawk	3	x		x	x
R-tail Hawk	8	x	N	x	x
Swains Hawk	14	x	x	x	x
Marsh Hawk	53	x	x	x	x
Pigeon Hawk	3				x
Sparrow Hawk	5	x			
Ruffed Grouse	6	x	x		x
Sh-t Grouse	19	x	N	x	x
R-n Pheasant	5		x	x	x
Gray Part	27	x	x	x	x
Sora	31	x	x	x	x
*Am Coot	2,307+	x	x	x	N
Semipal Plov	7		x	x	
Killdeer	90	x	N	x	x
Gldn Plover	2		x		
Bl-b Plover	103	x	x	x	x
Ru Turnstone	30		x	x	x
C Snipe	1				N
L-b Curlew	1				x
Upland Plover	10		x	x	x
Spot Sandp	26	x	x	x	x
*Willet	60	x	x	x	x
Lesser Ylegs	11		x	x	x
Knot	3		x		
Pector Sandp	82+		x	x	x
Wh-r Sandp	55+		x	x	x
Baird Sandp	207+		x	x	x
Least Sandp	117+	x		x	x
Dowitcher	7		x	x	x
Stilt Sandp	1,093+	x	x	x	x
Semipa Sandp	529+		x	x	x
Buff-b Sandp	137		x	x	x
*Marbl Godwit	100±	x	x	x	x
Sanderling	117+		x	x	x
Am Avocet	170+	N	N	x	x
Wils Phalar	165+	x	x	x	x
N Phalarope	2,403+	x	x	x	x
Herring Gull	1			x	
Calif Gull	198	x	x	x	x
Ring-b Gull	202+	x	x	x	x
*Frank Gull	830±	x	x	x	x

Species	Grand Quadrant Totals					Species	Grand Quadrant Totals				
	Total	SW	NW	NE	SE		Total	SW	NW	NE	SE
Forst Tern	1	x				Y-h Blkbird	701	x	x	x	x
Common Tern	6	x	x			R-w Blkbird	1,857+	x	x	x	x
*Black Tern	1,785+	x	x	x	x	Balt Oriole	40	x	x	x	x
*Rock Dove	120±	x	x	x	x	Brwr Blkbird	242+	x	x	x	x
Mourning Dove	99+	x	N	x	x	Com Grackle	25	x	x	x	x
Gr H Owl	5		x		2N	Br-h Cowbird	202+	x	x	x	x
Burrow Owl	1				x	R-b Grsbeak	4	x		x	
Long-ear Owl	1		N			Pine Siskin	23	x	x		x
Short-ear Owl	1		x			Am Goldfinch	60	x	x	x	x
R-th Humbird	1			x		Ruf-s Towhee	35	x	x	x	x
Y-sh Flicker	45	x	x	x	x	Lark Bunting	210+	x	x	x	x
Red-h Woodp	1				x	Savan Sparrow	75+	x	x	x	x
Y-b Sapsucker	1	x				Baird Sparrow	17	x	x	x	x
Hairy Woodp	6	x	x		x	LeCnt Sparrow	4				x
Downy Woodp	4	x			x	Vespr Sparrow	145+	x	2N	x	x
*E Kingbird	95	x	x	x	x	Lark Sparrow	4	x	x		
*W Kingbird	32	x	x	x	x	Chip Sparrow	10	x	x	x	x
E Phoebe	2	x			x	*Cl-col Sparrow	327+	x	x	x	x
Say's Phoebe	1				x	Harris Sparrow	1			x	
Lst Flycatch	55+	x	x	x	x	Wh-cr Sparrow	2	x			
W Wood Pewee	1			x		Wh-th Sparrow	2	x			
Horned Lark	308+	x	x	x	x	Song Sparrow	71±	x	x	x	x
Tree Swallow	138+	x	x	x	x	McCown Lngspr	5			x	
Bank Swallow	433±	x	x	x	x	Lplnd Longspr	2			x	
Barn Swallow	177+	x	x	x	x	C-col Lngspr	96+	x	x	x	x
Cliff Swallow	7	x			x	Snow Bunting	1			x	
Purple Martin	7				x	N indicates active nest.					
Blue Jay	2	x			x	* Species for which total counts were requested.					
*B-b Magpie	295	x	x	x	x						
*Common Crow	618+	x	3N	x	N						
B-c Chickadee	3	x									
House Wren	71+	x	x	x	x						
Catbird	8	x	x	x	x						
Br. Thrasher	32	x	x	x	x						
Robin	99+	x	x	x	x						
Swain Thrush	10		x	x	x						
Veery	14	x	x		x						
*Mt Bluebird	30	x	x	x	x						
Sprag Pipit	12	x	x	x							
*Loghd Shrike	45	x	x	x	x						
Starling	125+	x	2N	x	x						
Warbl Vireo	14	x	x	x	x						
Tenn Wrblr	20	x	x		x						
Or-cr Wrblr	3	x	x		x						
*Yellow Wrblr	250+	x	x	x	x						
Cape M Wrblr	1		x								
Blkpll Wrblr	8	x	x								
Ovenbird	6	x									
N Waterthrsh	2		x		x						
Yellowthroat	21	x			x						
Am Redstart	11	x	x								
House Sparrow	383+	x	x	x	x						
Bobolink	21+	x	x		x						
*W Meadowlark	593	x	x	x	x						

WHOOPING CRANE SURVIVAL

by F. G. Bard, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina

Pessimists think that extinction of the Whooping Crane is but a matter of time. There can be little genetic variability in such a small population and the species will not be able to change with natural habitat changes. Others, however, hope that the population can be increased and they have taken action. For the second year eggs from nests in Wood Buffalo National Park have been flown to the Rare and Endangered Wildlife Research Center at Patuxent, Maryland. Since Whooping Cranes lay two eggs but rarely raise more than one nestling this project has not reduced the number of young raised in the wild but it has allowed the building up of a captive flock. Whoopers do not reach breeding age until they are five years old. It is

hoped that when captive birds start reproducing some young can be returned to the wild each year.

Increasing the size of the flock is, however, only one aspect of the problem. We must ensure that there will always be habitat for the Whooping Crane. In Canada wildlife habitat is rapidly dwindling and most Canadians are far too inclined to take wildlife and its habitats for granted. But good news comes from Ottawa where a strong national committee met in June under the sponsorship of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to establish sub-groups to assess unique land areas and to plan ways of preserving all kinds of habitat and wildlife. It is to be hoped that they will be able to preserve the nesting grounds of the Whooping Crane and prevent excessive pollution and human utilization of the area.

The biggest immediate problem in Whooping Crane survival, even surpassing all the perils of the long migration, is the threatened change to its wintering ground. We have just

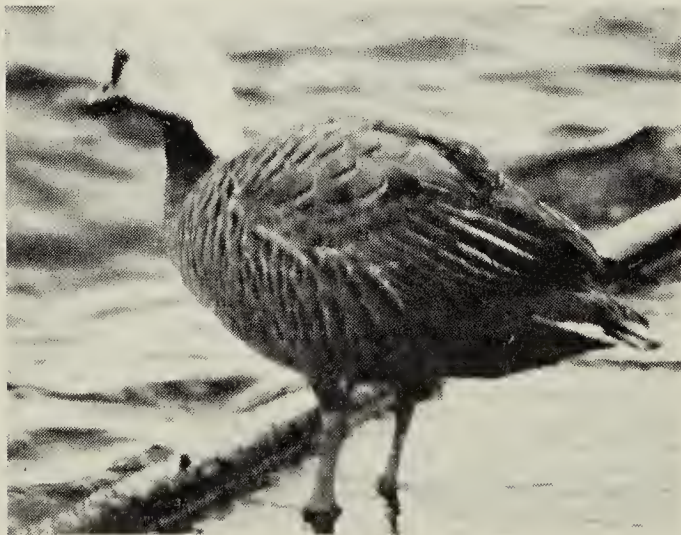
received word that the oyster shell dredgers have made application to dredge a total of 56 square miles of San Antonio Bay which runs the entire length of the eastern boundary of the Whooping Crane feeding grounds. Mud and silt will stay in suspension for a long period of time and the food chain of many species in this region will be affected. The changes may be disastrous to the welfare of wildlife in the Aransas Refuge and to the Whooping Crane in particular.

Canadian and American Wildlife Services are registering protests against the dredging plans. The application for dredging was made July 9 and deadline for protests is August 9. I received word, by telephone on July 25, from State Representative H. Cory of Victoria, Texas. The mail strike in Canada has delayed and hampered communications but I hope that this wilderness area which is of international value and is a right of future generations will not be destroyed by the desires of one small group.

AN EMPEROR GOOSE RECORD FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

by **Al Grass**, 5666 Rumble St., Burnaby, B.C.

Records for the Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*) in British Columbia are rather scarce. It is a pleasure therefore to report that one was observed and photographed by me on January 28, 1968 at the city of White



Rock. It was sitting on a floating jetty eating eel grass (*Zostera marina*) which had been washed up by the rather heavy waters which occurred during the week.

Godfrey (1966. *The Birds of Canada*, p. 51) gives the status of the bird as: "Rare winter visitant to the coast of British Columbia. Most frequently recorded from Masset, Queen Charlotte Islands, but has occurred also at Chemainus, Tlell, Cape Scott, Discovery Island, and Triple Island."

The bird was observed by a large number of people, including Mr. Glen R. Ryder and Mr. C. Wayne Campbell (who first alerted me to its presence). This species resembles the blue phase of the Snow Goose, but its black neck immediately separates it.

PREDATION OF BLUEBIRDS BY AN EASTERN CHIPMUNK

by **Wayne Miller**, 2 Almond Crescent, Brandon, Manitoba

On June 29, 1968, five miles east of Carberry, Manitoba, members of the Brandon Junior Bird Club and I observed the predation of an Eastern Bluebird brood (*Sialia sialis*) by an Eastern Chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*).

The nesting box was located five feet from the ground on top of a rough fence post. At its base was a ledge upon which the chipmunk had gained a footing to enter the box. The diameter of the entrance was an inch and a half.

Of the bluebird pair present, the male was the more aggressive in nest defence. His defence mechanisms included (1) the hovering display (after Lack, 1946), (2) attacking (this was repeated until the chipmunk was driven from the box), and, (3) defence vocalizations (consisting of "chirr", "chichip"), and mechanical defence (or bill snapping). The hovering display and the territorial song were used as assurance to the female bird.

The female bluebird's defence con-

sisted of flying several times to the top of the nesting box, and perching below the nest between these flights. Nest defence was observed only when the chipmunk was within the box. After the intruder had been driven away, both birds perched just below the box and examined the ground for nearly five minutes.

We examined the contents of the nest and found that the chipmunk had killed two of the five four-day-old young, and had begun to devour their remains. When we left the nesting area, the bluebirds again perched below the nest, watching for the intruder.

Although predation of birds by an Eastern Chipmunk is in itself unusual, the fact that a nesting box was entered in this instance is of particular interest. This is the first time the Brandon Junior Birders have recorded such behavior for the species.

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A RECORD OF THE PIPE-VINE SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY, *BATTUS PHILENOR*, FROM MANITOBA

by John H. Masters, Box 7511, St. Paul, Minnesota

I have been recently examining and cataloguing the correspondence file of the late Shirley Brooks of Winnipeg who published the most current list of Manitoba butterflies (Canadian Entomologist, 1942, 54:31-36). One interesting discovery is the disclosure of an important addition to the Manitoba list contained in a letter from Mr. D. W. Morden of Killarney, Manitoba dated September 12, 1942.

Mr. Morden wrote as follows: "This morning while sitting in my office, Mrs. Morden was standing in the front door and she called to me that there was a lovely butterfly around the flowers in front of the hotel. I immediately went out and grabbed my net that was sitting close to the door and went after it, however it was shy and it flew across to the next block to some other flowers. I followed it and carefully crept up to where it was on a large Zinnia flower and I got it the first try in my net. In looking up Hollands Butterfly Book I found it was a *Papilio philenor* (Plate XLII - fig. 3, page 314). I thought I would ask you if you know of this butterfly ever having been taken in Manitoba or as far north as this . . ."

Mr. Brooks replied (in a letter dated September 16, 1942): ". . . So far, *P. philenor* has not been recorded from Manitoba but it is, of course, possible

that one or more may have strayed into the province . . . I should very much like to see the specimen. Without seeing it I cannot give any opinion on it. The swallowtail family have great variations and it might be an aberration of one of our native species. . . ." I cannot ascertain if Brooks ever examined this specimen or not, but I suspect he did as in a later letter to Jack Dennis of Birtle, Manitoba he mentions that he has added *Papilio philenor* to the Manitoba list. The date of capture (September 12) would seem to rule out any of the native Manitoba species all of which are single-brooded and fly in the early summer.

The normal range of *Battus philenor* Linnaeus (formerly placed in the genus *Papilio*) is the southeastern United States and Mexico. It ranges west to the edge of the Great Plains in Missouri and Arkansas, and central Missouri seems to be the normal northern limit. A single stray had been previously recorded from Butterfield in southern Minnesota—over 500 miles south of the Killarney locality.

The G. Shirley Brooks collection and related documents are the property of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg. I am indebted to Mr. W. Harvey Beck, Keeper of Collections, for allowing me access to them.

NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE BOG COPPER, *LYCAENA EPIXANTHE*, IN MANITOBA

by John H. Masters, Box 7511, St. Paul, Minnesota

Lycaena epixanthe Boisduval & Leconte is a small butterfly (wingspan $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1") with a purplish-copper gloss on the upper wings and a pale yellowish underside with a red

band at the anal angle. It is similar in appearance to *Lycaena dorcas* Kirby and *Lycaena helloides* Boisduval with which it is easily confused. *Lycaena epixanthe* is very local in



Figure 1, *Lycaena epixanthe* upper side; figure 2, *L. epixanthe* under side; figure 3, *Lycaena helloides* upper side; figure 4, *L. helloides* under side; figure 5, *Lycaena dorcas* upper side; figure 6, *L. dorcas* under side. All figures are $1\frac{1}{2}$ times natural size. All butterflies pictured are males.

habitat and never strays far away from its food plant, the small cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccos* L.), growing in acid sphagnum bogs.

The range of *epixanthe* is usually given as the Maritime Provinces and Quebec south to New Jersey and west to Ontario and Michigan and it was not included by Wallis (1921), Brodie (1929), or Brooks (1942), in their lists of Manitoba butterflies. The only published Manitoba record for *epixanthe* is by Bird (1956) who recorded collecting both *Lycaena epixanthe* and *Lycaena dorcas* in an open tamarack bog in the Whiteshell Forest Preserve of southeastern Manitoba. During August, 1967, however, I found *epixanthe* in several Manitoba bogs which extends its range across the southern half of the province to Riding Mountain. It is probably found in every southern Manitoba bog where its food plant, *V. oxycoccos*, grows and quite likely occurs in southeastern Saskatchewan as well. *Epixanthe* is single brooded and flies in late July and

early August. It is fond of visiting flowers and is usually found on them at the edge of bogs.

There is one very old record of *epixanthe* in Manitoba by Heath (1899) who recorded it as *L. helloides* but added enough additional information that we are able to distinguish it as *epixanthe*. Mr. Heath, who lived at Cartwright, Manitoba, wrote: "I have a further addition to make of my list of the butterflies of Southern Manitoba, as a result of last summer's work. . . . The scarcity of grass in the usual prairie hay meadows drove me into a small muskeg of a few acres in extent, in a corner of a river valley, about a mile from my house. . . . In it, at the end of July and beginning of August, I took three or four specimens of *Thecla acadica*, and the same number of *Lycaena thoe*, and also a variety of *L. helloides*, smaller and more faintly marked than any I have taken before—the large form being generally abundant in certain places." Without a doubt, the

small, faintly marked "*L. helloides*" represent *L. epixanthe* — a determination made 69 years later.

Lycaena helloides is a western species that inhabits drier areas. Its food plants are dock (*Rumex* sp.) and knotweed (*Polygonum* sp.) and it is multiple brooded and can be found from June through September. The Purplish Copper, as it is commonly called, is somewhat larger than *epixanthe* (wingspan 1¼ to 1½ inches) and it is quite a bit darker, especially on the under side where it is a dark rich orange instead of pale yellow.

The Dorcas Copper is intermediate in size between *epixanthe* and *helloides* (wingspan 1 to 1¼ inches). It is very similar in appearance to the other two except that the hind wing beneath is

a very dark, almost gray color. There is a single brood per year and in Manitoba it flies in early and mid-July. The food plant in New Brunswick is Shrubby Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa* L.), but it must be some other plant in Manitoba where the butterfly is most commonly found in marsh or grassy bog environments.

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Junior Naturalists

Edited by **Joyce Deutscher**, 7200 6th Ave., Regina

GOOD WORK JUNIORS

Juniors have been busy writing newsy and interesting reports of their activities. Some of these are being held over for publication in the next newsletter.

Some of you may be still wondering what the newsletter is. One indignant young lady on being informed that her letter was published in the newsletter wrote back and said, "What newsletter?"

If you pick up your *Blue Jay* at the newsstand you may not be aware that for the same price you pay for four issues of the *Blue Jay* you can also get the Saskatchewan Natural History Society's newsletter and a membership in that society but you have to send your membership in to the society. The details are given on the back cover of each *Blue Jay*.

Letters from Juniors should be sent to Mrs. Joyce Deutscher, 7200 - 6th Ave., Regina for inclusion in the Junior Naturalist's Section.

NATURE HOBBIES

by **Helene R. White**

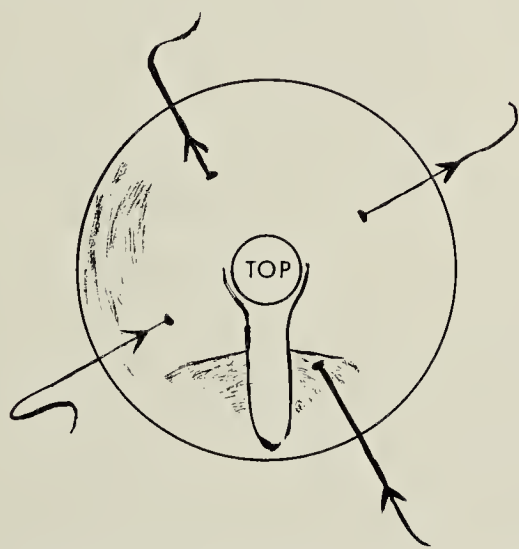
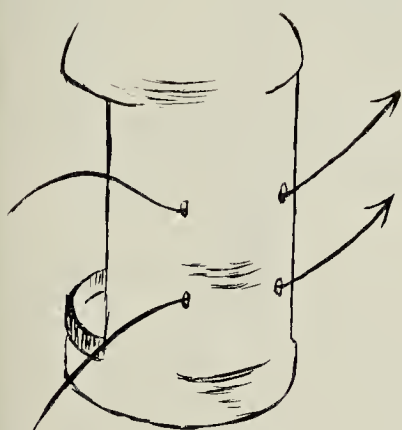
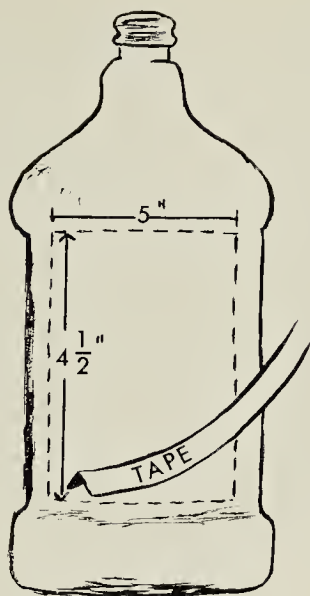
Note: This letter is a continuation of the one published in the newsletter wherein Mrs.

White tells about collecting goldenrod galls for hobby use. She promises more about this in a future letter.

Black-capped Chickadees followed me closely on this stroll along the banks of the wandering Wasquesiu, for these little friends dine regularly at our homemade feeders in our garden. A simple feeder to construct merely requires a half gallon plastic bleach bottle, scissors, pencil, adhesive tape and some strong string or insulated wire. Thoroughly wash the container, keep the top and replace it, now take your pencil and mark the opening as shown. Holding the bottle under the hot water tap (heat makes cutting easier) cut this window out. Dry bottle thoroughly and place the adhesive tape over the sharp lower edge. The illustrations show you where to punch the holes for mounting. Thread the insulated wire or string through these holes.

Fill your feeder with commercial wild birdseed and a bit of bird gravel or sand for grit. Chickadees are very fond of chopped walnuts, uncooked and unsalted sunflower seeds and peanuts.

Now decide where you want it, face



the opening south and preferably in a somewhat sheltered spot, away from wind and snow. Ours is hanging in a thicket of lilac bush but yours could be tied to a tree or post. Try to make the feeder safe from cats by adding a cat shield if you use a tree or post. If you lack trees and shrubbery for the birds to find shelter in, then haul home some large DEAD branches and tie them to the clothes line pole or other upright, add a cat

shield and you are all set.

Hang or lash your feeder out, tie some large pieces of suet to branches, no dangling string ends please, and you are ready for your visitors. If the feeder seems to swing in the wind too much tangle it in some branches.

A feeder for wild birds is a constant joy but do remember that once you start to feed the birds they depend upon you so you must keep the feeder well supplied ALWAYS.

TEN BALD EAGLES AT FISH FEAST

by Maxine Johnson, age 12, Dore Lake

My father owns a mink ranch and every day he goes out fishing. A lot of the fish are left out on the lake and on the shores because they are not fit to feed to the mink. On April 22, at 7:30 p.m., my brother and I saw 10 Bald Eagles having a feast on the fish. I think there are Bald Eagles nesting within five miles of our home. There are also nests in the Sled Lake area.

MORE ABOUT BURROWING OWLS

by Richard Loewen, age 12, Dalmeny

One day while walking in the pasture, I came upon numerous badger holes. Out of one of these flew a brown bird about seven inches long and it appeared to be an owl. The hole, which I presumed was the nest hole, had plenty of debris such as manure, straw, and feathers. The hole went far underground. Upon reading the article in the last *Blue Jay*, "Burrowing Owls in North Dakota", I decided it must be a Burrowing Owl.

THE OWL NEST UPSETS

by Gayle Dayman, age 11, Windthorst

One day my father saw a Horned Owl's nest with two babies in it high in a tree. A few days later we went to see it. We couldn't find it because the tree had fallen over and caught in another tree. The nest was turned upside-down. Under it on the ground was a baby owl covered with white down and black pinfeathers showing through. Beside it was a baby owl's foot and wing. Probably one baby was killed and eaten. One of the parents was flying around while my father took a close-up picture. We would have liked to put the owl back up in the nest but it was too high up.

We wanted to keep it for a pet but Dad had one when he was a boy and said we would have to catch about 20 mice a day for it.

FIRE DAMAGE TO NESTS

by Bryan Rothenburger, age 12, Radisson

Last spring it was very dry in this part of Saskatchewan. One day some men burned some dead grass. After the fire died down I went out to see what the nest damage was. By a log I found a Horned Lark's nest with the babies partly out of the shell. Of course the baby larks were roasted to death. Later on I found a nest of the Western Meadowlark containing eggs which were practically hard boiled. When I was going back I found a whole flock of blackbirds which had not escaped the fire. I guess there were many more birds and nests which were destroyed.

BANK SWALLOW NESTS SLIDE INTO DIEFENBAKER LAKE

by Nicky Boon, Lucky Lake

On the east side of Diefenbaker Lake on the ferry route there are many Bank Swallow nests. One day while we were waiting for the ferry we counted 26 nests. Then a few days later the bank slid and destroyed about 22 nests. Some of the swallows have rebuilt nests once more. We hope they will have their young and they can fly before the bank slides again.

"GOPHERS" AT PLAY

by Linda Nemeth, age 12, Yellow Creek

One day I saw a gopher come from its hole. It followed me until it met with another gopher. It started running after the other gopher. They ran after each other until they both got to a stone. One gopher went around one side of the stone and the other gopher went the other way. They scrapped until one gopher ran away. The other gopher ran after it. They chased after each other until my dog chased after them. It was so funny to see gophers running after each other. They ran until they got to their holes. Note: The "gopher" referred to here is probably the Richardson's Ground Squirrel.



by DERWENT MAZUR
AFTER ROBERT ALLEN.

" WHOOPING GRANES DURING MATING SEASON "

WALKING ACROSS THE HILLS

by Rosemary Nemeth, age 12, Yellow Creek

One evening last spring we went to seed the garden in the hills. After we finished my Dad and I walked across the hills.

On our way we heard and saw many things. We saw many different kinds of flowers. It was very exciting to hear Ruffed Grouse doing their mating dances. We saw deer tracks, fox tracks and coyote tracks. I found a girdled twig. We came to a gravel pit in which there were at least one hundred Bank Swallow nests. We

found many old nests along the way.

It took us about two hours to walk home.

THE RUFFED GROUSE

by Audrey Zip, age 12, Yellow Creek

One day I was walking along a slough when I saw something brown sticking out of a snowbank. When I pulled it out it turned out to be a dead Ruffed Grouse. I wondered what the Grouse was doing in a snowbank. At school I found out that Ruffed Grouse dig themselves into snowbanks to protect themselves against winter storms.

SLATE-COLOURED JUNCO

by Joan Popiel, age 12, Yellow Creek

In the first week of March, I spotted a flock of juncos. There were 22 in the flock. They stayed till the snow fell.

Among the flock there was one Starling. I set out feeding trays for the juncos. When the Starling came to eat out of the tray, the juncos chased it away. A few days later I noticed two dead juncos. The Starling was trying to drag them away. There are only four Slate-coloured Juncos left.

I looked in different books to help me to identify the different kinds of birds. I got most of my help from the bird books in our classroom.

CLIFF SWALLOWS

by Robert Kotyk, age 13, Yellow Creek

Last summer there were about 25 Cliff Swallow nests around our house. The nests were made of mud. The swallows carry the mud by their bill. The bird keeps putting the mud to make something like a ball with a hole in the top. It took the bird about one week to build the nest.

I broke one of the nests and found six eggs; the eggs were white with brown spots. Many nests fell down because of wet weather and foolish people. Some of the little birds that couldn't fly got killed. Cars ran over some and some got eaten by cats and dogs.

The Cliff Swallows need our help to stay alive. If you see cats or dogs in your yard you should chase them away. When you see a little Cliff Swallow on the road put it back into the nest. Don't break their nests!

PET CROWS

by Gaylene Mazur, age 10, Yellow Creek

Two summers ago Derwent brought home two baby crows. At first he fed the crows bread soaked in milk. The crows liked it.

We named the crows Jimmy and Blackie. As soon as they were able to fly, they were up to mischief. One

time the crows chased a robin in the air. The robin would quickly turn to a side. The crows were bigger and clumsier. They couldn't take corners as easily.

We let the crows sleep out at night in the trees near our house. Every morning they were the first to awaken. They would caw until someone got tired of hearing them and fed them bread or cheese.

One morning we awakened to find one crow missing. We figured it was a hawk. A few days later Blackie disappeared. We suspected then that the hawk had killed both crows. Since then we have not had crows as pets.

"DOG" STORIES

Several Juniors have written about members of the Family Canidae or dog family. Apart from the domestic dog, the family is represented in Saskatchewan by five members: the Red Fox, Swift Fox, Arctic Fox, Coyote and Gray Wolf.

Glen Wilchynshi from Yellow Creek followed some tracks to a brush pile and found a Red Fox.

"My dog started to chase it," adds Glen, "but the fox was too fast for it. The dog barked and the fox stopped and looked and kept on going. The fox came back. Our dog kept on chasing the fox but the fox was too fast."

Byron Lune didn't see any tracks but he heard howling and went towards the sound to investigate. "I saw two coyotes walking in a single file," says Byron. "The next day I saw only one. The dogs started to run after the coyote. The coyote stopped. I thought the coyote and the dog were going to fight. Then I called the dog back."

A well known Saskatchewan naturalist, R. D. Symons in his book "Many Trails" tells how one coyote found safety when being chased by hounds. "Hard pressed, he suddenly turned, ran and twisted his way through the hounds, and making straight for the truck leaped into the dog box!" The

hounds lost track of the coyote because it was overhead in the truck where they did not see it and they hunt mostly by sight.

Anyone else for dog stories?

WHY NOT PLANT SOME BULBS THIS FALL?

At least one Junior has had success with a bulb planting project. Colette Isinger tells us, "On September 16, 1967 I planted some bulbs. I planted two daffodils, a hyacinth, and a tulip. I brought all of them into direct sunlight on January 28, 1968.

"My daffodil started blooming on February 17. My hyacinth started blooming on February 16. It was purplish blue. The scent was nice."

These are all cultivated bulbs which Colette is growing. Growing instructions usually come with these bulbs

when you buy them. Be sure to buy your bulbs from a well known nursery specializing in bulbs which are hardy in your area.

Do you know any native plants which grow from bulbs? The lily family (Liliaceae) has several members which grow from bulbs or bulb-lets. Perhaps the best known is the Western Red Lily, the flower emblem of Saskatchewan.

Some members of the lily family are poisonous. The Death Camas which grows from an onion-like bulb is one of them. Others have bulbs which are edible. I remember as a child how I used to eat wild onions at recess time and how wonderful it was being sent back out into the fresh spring air after the bell rang because classmates couldn't bear to sit near me. That's all for this time. Be seeing you in the Newsletter.

The Blue Jay Bookshelf

OUTDOORSMAN'S FITNESS AND MEDICAL GUIDE. By Laurence Galton. 1966. Harper and Rowe, New York. 260 pp. Black-and-white illustrations.

For natural historians who may be prepared to watch the birds of Lake Athabasca, climb trees to band owls, or explore the wilderness and forests, this book is timely as it contains information on fitness and survival for the outdoor man. Methods of getting physically fit for the rigours of field study are discussed, as well as associated problems of diet both before and during trips. The system of "down-proofing" whereby a man can stay alive for hours in the water will be useful for the canoeist and those who will be boating. Other chapters on survival in deserts, cold, and high altitudes give the reader a wider knowledge of how to live comfortably while in the bush. The subject of first aid for minor and serious injury is described and illustrated with excellent drawings, together with sage advice.

The style of the author is straightforward and concise, and makes easy reading. The illustrations make this book a worthwhile addition to personal bookshelves. It should be read thoroughly by anyone who is going to spend much time in the wilderness.—
Thomas White, Regina.

CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE PROGRESS NOTES. Mimeo. 8½ x 11 sheets, punched for filing in three-ring binder. Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa.

The Canadian Wildlife Service's *Progress Notes* contain interim data and conclusions from studies being currently carried on by the Service in different parts of Canada. They are intended for circulation to wildlife biologists and other interested agencies who would like to know the present status of such studies without having to wait for final publication of results in journals and monographs. It is of course intended that the notes will appear in summary volumes from

time to time; in the meantime, the convenient format makes it possible to file them in an ordinary ring binder.

Six numbers of these useful notes have now come to the Editor's desk. The last three received are of special interest to persons concerned with the waterfowl harvest, and this is a reflection of one of the main concerns of the Canadian Wildlife Service. In No. 4, Denis Benson, Head of the Biometrics Section of the Service in Ottawa, gave a preliminary report on sales of the Canada migratory game bird hunting permit in 1967-68, showing the make-up of the hunter population in terms of province or state of residence. In No. 5, he reported on the results of a survey made of these hunters, giving an estimated total harvest of birds, the seasonal and daily bags, and the total man-days of recreation provided by the resource. In No. 6, M. F. Sorensen of the CWS and E. F. Bossenmaier of the Manitoba Wildlife Branch, give an appraisal of the no-Mallard restriction during a portion of the 1967 waterfowl hunting season in southern Manitoba.

The candour with which these "progress notes" are presented is indicated by the nature of some of the interim data appearing in the tables. For example, the table of hunter success for Saskatchewan shows species such as Band-tailed Pigeons and Gallinules being taken, with the simple comment that these reports probably represent misidentifications. Later reviews of these studies will have to correct these misrepresentations but it is of considerable interest to see information in this provisional form.

MAN — AN ENDANGERED SPECIES? U.S. Department of the Interior Conservation Yearbook. 1967. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. \$1.50.

Although the title ends in a question mark, the fourth Conservation Yearbook just published by the Department of the Interior begins:

"Man is a threatened species." The twin dangers he faces, according to the book, are "overpopulation and unbridled technology—both self-induced." The double threat is examined in its relationship to man's total habitat, "the diminishing quality, the creeping vulgarity and ugliness of those environmental components which man must look at, listen to, work with, and play in."

Continuing the full-color, magazine format of Interior's three previous yearbooks, the 100-page publication went on sale late last month at the Government Printing Office for \$1.50 a copy. The three previous reports—"The Third Wave," "The Population Challenge," and "Quest for Quality"—have sold more than 200,000 copies and serve as annual reports for the Department for 1964, 1965 and 1966. "Man—An Endangered Species?", the 1967 edition, contains a foreword by Secretary Stewart L. Udall and presents the year's record of his Department within the areas of responsibility assigned to it by Congress and the White House.—Reprinted from *Conservation News*, 33(4):11, Feb. 15, 1968.

A GUIDE TO SASKATCHEWAN MAMMALS



This SNHS Special Publication is still available from the *Blue Jay*, Box 1121, Regina for 50 cents.

Letters and Notes

SOME THOUGHTS ON CONSERVATION

Recently I received a copy of a little booklet published by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds which summarizes in popular language the provisions of the British Protection of Birds Act, 1954 and the amendments added by the Protection of Birds Act, 1967, I am reminded by this little publication of the good work being done in Britain by the RSPB. They have a mass of traditional "hobby activities" to fight. From time immemorial British working people have taken live birds to cage—we can partly forgive this when we realize the exodus from Chaucer's green England to the "dark satanic mills" which sprang up everywhere at the time of the industrial revolution. I, as a child, was accustomed to seeing caged larks, goldfinches, etc. hung in wicker cages in the homes of the urban poor. It was an attempt to bring something of the countryside to brighten their drab homes. They did love their birds and cared for them as best they could, weekly renewing the green sod in the cage. The other side of the story is not so easy to countenance, for in the catching of these birds many were killed or injured. Still another abuse arose in the activities of "professional" skin and egg hunters, for among the well-to-do it became popular to form collections, although here again the motive was a real interest in the fauna of the British Isles.

All these activities had to be exposed for what they were, and birds are now legally protected against these abuses. If Britain was slow to adopt strict measures, it was on the basis that *custom* has always been respected there. We have little of such tradition to combat in Canada, but with us another tradition grew up, much regretted by conservationists—

the right of every man to carry a gun and shoot at whatever took his fancy.

Another conservation question of recent concern has been the killing of baby seals. This situation is touchy, for there are people depending on the seal hunt for a living, although this cannot excuse unnecessary brutality. Also, it is obvious that, if there is any chance of reducing the number to a dangerously low level, something should then be done. Similarly, in the trapping of fur-bearing animals, a little more thought might be given to the problems of our native population; some commentators do not appear to know much about the industry. Trappers do not visit their traps "only occasionally", leaving animals to suffer for days, if for no other reason than that the pelts would be damaged and worthless due to attacks of wolverines, eagles, foxes, etc.! In some cases, as in the shooting of deer, if the "sentimentalists" had their way, there could be population explosions defeating the end of conservation.

The situation is really very complex. All prohibitive measures are in a sense *negative*. I am much more in favour of *positive* protective measures—leaving roadside cover, leaving bluffs and potholes (even if they have to be rented from the landowners). In this connection I am always amazed at the amount of wildlife occupying railway rights-of-way. No one intrudes on these, and although the maintenance men burn the grass frequently, it is usually done in very early spring, before nesting. Our local section foreman tells me of fox, badger and skunk dens, as well as nests of partridge, ducks and bluebirds (which nest in the snow fences). Most of these men who travel the lines daily on their scooters are not the least predatory, but enjoy the companionship of the wildlife they come in contact with in the course of their work.—R. D. Symons, Silton.

UNUSUAL FEEDING HABITS OF HARRIS' SPARROW

During the period immediately following a spring snowstorm which ended May 17, 1968, I put various foods out around my bird feeder, including peanut butter for Gray Jays and woodpeckers which I smeared on the side of a four inch diameter post about four feet above the ground. To my surprise, at least a dozen times during the day a Harris' Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) clung to the side of the bare pole in order to get at the peanut butter. Each time was over one minute in duration and the longest over three minutes. At no time did I observe the tail being used as a prop in the manner of a woodpecker. The body angle was approximately 75 degrees from the horizontal. I was unable to determine whether one bird or several were involved in this manner of feeding. Also, during the first day after the snowstorm, Harris' Sparrows fed at the roofed feeder, two at a time, usually with single White-crowned, White-throated, or Song sparrows on the shelf, while one or two other Harris' Sparrows waited on the roof. In all the time I have had a feeder up, I do not remember seeing Harris' at the feeder itself. By May 19, all of the Harris' Sparrows were feeding on the ground again in their usual manner. — A. Edward Wilson, Island Lake, Manitoba.

AN OBSERVATION OF THE PEREGRINE FALCON IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

In the April, 1968 *Auk* (85:179-91) Clayton M White indicated a breeding locality for the Peregrine Falcon at "Fon du lak" in northern Saskatchewan. Apart from the obvious misspelling of Fond du Lac, a settlement on the extreme east end of Lake Athabasca, I was interested in knowing the basis for this record. As pointed out earlier (Nero, 1963, *Birds of the Lake Athabasca region, Saskatchewan*, p. 29) there has been no defi-

nite record of this species nesting in the province, and not even a good sight observation for northern Saskatchewan.

Upon enquiry I was informed that an adult female Peregrine Falcon had been shot in early August, 1947, by a geologist named Adam Henderson, apparently closer to Goldfields (a former mine site southeast of Uranium City) than to Fond du Lac. Henderson, when contacted by White in 1959 in California, claimed that the bird was "with a young one" and he thought it had a nest near there. He was considered by White to be a "rather good amateur birder" and he had several good color photos of another geologist holding the bird. This seems insufficient evidence for a breeding record and White admits that he may have "been quite wrong in believing they bred there" (pers. corres., June 1, 1968). Nevertheless, the species can now be added to the list of northern Saskatchewan birds.

The rock cliffs along the north shore of Lake Athabasca appear to offer suitable nesting sites for Peregrine Falcons and a careful search might yet yield an active nest of this species. Meanwhile, I think we must consider that evidence is still lacking for the breeding of this species in Saskatchewan.—Robert W. Nero, Manitoba Museum of Man & Nature, 147 James Ave., Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

In the March, 1967 issue of the *Blue Jay*, I read a very interesting article on the "skidoo". I do agree with what is said about the new wildlife menace.

With winter close at hand, perhaps this "nature-destroyer", if you want to call it that, will be out on one of its most popular errands soon. It is not really the machine that is the destroyer; it is the person operating it who is the one that is carelessly destroying our wildlife.

This speedy, but costly, machine is well-known in many areas and is used

regularly for hunting coyotes and foxes. Many who use these machines think it is fun to see how fast and how far coyotes and foxes can run before they tire out and can be killed with a club. If they are not run down by the skidoo, and are able to make it to a bluff, they are easily approached with the .22 calibre rifle. Too many people forget that coyotes and foxes are out in the fields destroying the harmful mice that are so plentiful in the absence of natural enemies.

I am sure that when this machine was manufactured, it was not meant to destroy wildlife, but for useful travel and for sport. True, not everyone that owns a snow toboggan uses it for destroying wildlife, but since so many people do use them for that purpose, I would like to see a good strict law against this type of destruction. We need better wildlife management, but it is only we, the people of this province, of Canada, and of the world that can help save our diminishing and useful inhabitants of the "great outdoors."—*Mac Welch*, Birch Hills.

OCEAN-GOING PINTAILS

In October of 1966 I was privileged to be a passenger on board the motor ship "Cap Blanco" en route non-stop from Los Angeles, California to Sydney, Australia. The voyage required 16½ days and no land was sighted until we saw the mainland of Australia.

No days passed without sighting birds of some sort. Most of them were of the long distance flying variety, such as terns, gulls, petrels and albatrosses. About eight days out, I was up on the prow of the vessel looking for birds. It was a sunny, warm morning with a light following breeze. Our location was about 1000 miles southeast of the Hawaiian Islands. Three Pintail ducks flew by about 30 yards away and only 30 feet above the waves. They were coming from the

direction of Hawaii, and they continued southeast toward Easter Island or mainland South America. Either objective would be about 3000 miles or more away.—*Elwin Baines*, Box 8, Tisdale, Saskatchewan.

GOLDENEYE NESTING IN CHIMNEY

This summer our family spent the last weekend of June in a cabin at the south end of Turtle Lake in the northwest area of Saskatchewan. While we were preparing to light the wood stove early Saturday morning a strange squeaking noise was heard. Attributing this slight distraction to mice in the walls we went on with the fire making. However, the noises continued and were definitely not the squeaking of mice; nor were they coming from the wall. They were birdlike and located in the chimney well.

The next avenue of investigation was from above, on the roof. With the aid of a flashlight it was possible to look down the square cinder block chimney and perceive, some nine or ten feet below, the shining eye of what was apparently a duck.

Returned to ground level, we decided to try and remove the seemingly well-hatched family by reaching several feet down through the hole where the stove pipe entered the chimney. Efforts to remove the adult resulted in her making a scrambling exit up the narrow vertical chimney. Two of the young ducklings took this same escape route in the next few minutes and were retrieved unhurt after their fall from the cabin roof. Eight of their brothers and sisters were removed from the soft nest of gray down. These ten were placed in a box and carried to the edge of the lake where they were released. The little flotilla swam slowly out and were met by the anxious mother who had remained a few dozen yards off shore.

The little black ducklings were speckled with white and were com-

pletely white on the underside including the area under the neck. Their most distinguishing characteristic was the presence of little claws on the toes of their webbed feet.

In addition to the ten ducklings in the nest, there were two very dark colored eggs, each the size of a large hen egg.

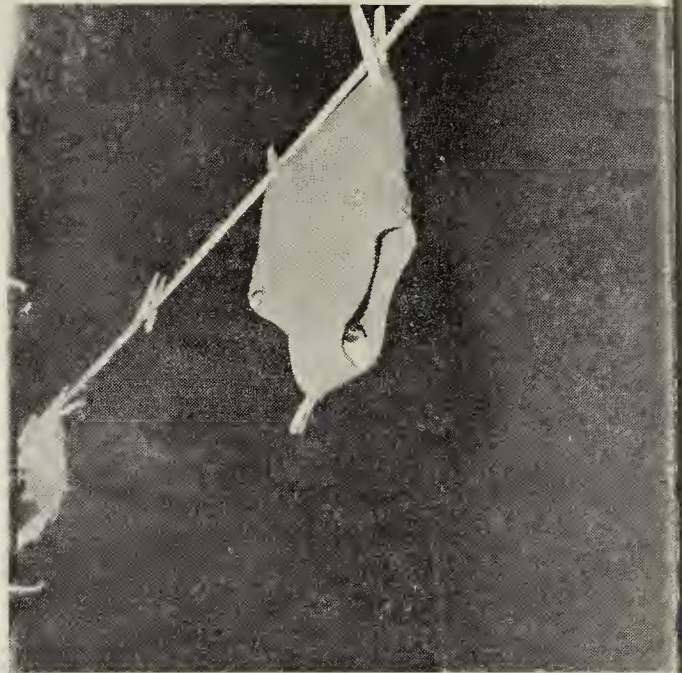
Although this was our first experience with the hole-nesting Goldeneye Duck, our parents who also use the cabin, say this has been an annual occurrence for the past four or five years.—*Mrs. Mary Thacker, Saskatoon.*

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON EAGLES

On February 23, 1968 two men and myself found an eagle "grounded" in deep snow. From the way it floundered along through the snow we thought it was injured, but after following it through the dense willows we came to the conclusion that it was just weak. We helped it along until we got it on a road. With the three-foot elevation of the grade and a firm surface it was able to get off the ground and it flew up to a dry tree about 50 yards away. This bird was dark brown with a light head [Ed.—probably a Golden Eagle]. Its wingspan was between five and one-half and six feet. It had apparently come down where a dozen magpies were feeding on a dead rabbit caught in a snare. Perhaps it had been feeding in a similar manner previously as several half-eaten rabbits had been found in their snares.

Last fall I sighted a pair of adult Bald Eagles with what I presumed to be a young one in this same area, on the Manitoba boundary east of Welby, Saskatchewan. The white heads and white tails of the adults were truly distinctive. Other years, they have been sighted first in April; last year they were feeding on a young deer that had died near a trail through my hayfield. However, the above record is my first for winter.—*Eric Selkirk, Spy Hill.*

ROCK-A-BYE-BABY



The enclosed picture was taken at Pigeon Lake, Alberta. A child had been water-playing. Now while he had his afternoon nap, his bathing trunks were hung on the line to dry. A chickadee had also been playing and spying a ready-made cradle he settled into the swing to take his rest. An amused photographer recorded the delightful incident.—*Pearl Guest, Regina.*

A FLY-IN OF STARLINGS

Early this spring, when visiting friends on a ranch south of Calgary, I saw what I understand is something unusual in nature's long list of strange phenomena. This was a "fly-in" of starlings. How many birds took part, I have no real idea. My friend said a million; but he was bitter — he had to clean up after them.

It was after dinner that my host said, "Say, you're interested in birds, aren't you? Come out and have a look." Outside, the sun was well down and the chill of a spring night was already in the air. Overhead, the earliest stars were twinkling and a segment of silver moon was nearing the zenith. In front of the house we could just distinguish the row of closely planted spruce that, reaching well above the telephone wires, surrounded the large lawn on three sides. Behind us and to the right, the hills

were silhouetted by the light of the hidden sun. It was one of those still, clear nights that fill the observer with wonder at the beauty of the universe.

Suddenly my friend said, "Here they come."

Immediately the night was transformed. There was a whirring, rushing sound that grew in intensity as it came closer and then it was as if a sudden, violent gust of wind were passing over our heads. And as it passed there was no moon, and no stars. Quickly the sound faded, and the moon and the stars were seen again. From the spruce trees came a mighty twittering and chirping and chattering as thousands of birds settled for the night.

Again came the flurry of sound. Our eyes were now accustomed to the dusk so that by peering hard into the darkening sky we could recognize a moving black shadow in the southeast. This grew rapidly in size and clarity, then swung to the north and almost faded away but came back into sharp focus as it swung toward us and rushed past with a mighty "swoosh". Again the moon and the stars were hidden, but as the flock passed directly over our heads we could distinguish individual birds, though they were so closely packed that it was difficult to believe that the air could hold them all. Momentarily, I expected a shower of starlings.

But they passed by, and again from the spruce hedge came the clamorous chorus that could have been a wrangling over space. All the perching room on every branch must have been taken up; otherwise, the number of trees available couldn't have accommodated the many thousands that kept pouring in. That these limbs could have supported all this weight seemed unbelievable, but a check in the morning showed all branches intact though covered deeply with droppings which also covered the needles on the trees, the surrounding rail fence, and the ground underneath. When the birds left, it took shovels and wheelbarrows to bring the grass back into the sun.

The starlings' night was shorter than ours. At first light of dawn I slowly wakened from a crazy dream. As I gradually came to my senses I realized what was going on! The starlings were awakening. I looked out the window; the loud chattering was continuous and didn't seem to decrease in volume although every few minutes a black mass rose from the trees as a few thousand birds took off for the day.

At breakfast time, I asked my host what he thought was the reason for the birds stopping at his place.

"Don't know," he said. "Suddenly they're there, and about six weeks later, suddenly they're gone. But if I knew why, and could do anything about it, you can be darn sure I would. But I'll show you something after breakfast."

We went out to the pastures. Through the winter these fields had been the home of three thousand steers. Where the steers had fed, the ground was a black mass of birds. At intervals they moved a few feet and it was like a wave on a sea of rolling black water.

Probably in the pastures and feed lots lies the answer to the birds' presence. Whatever the reason, they are there, and to watch the flight of the countless thousands is a memorable experience.—*W. B. Parsons, M.D., Red Deer, Alberta.*

CINNAMON TEAL

On June 5, 1968, R. Kent Brace called my attention to a particular duck swimming in a roadside slough, approximately 20 feet away. After careful observation by Mr. Brace and myself with 7 x 35 binoculars, we concluded that it was a Cinnamon Teal. After a few moments of observation the duck flew to the other side of the slough (a distance of approximately 50 feet) and then flew off a few minutes later. The location of the slough was the southwest corner of Section 18, Township 10, Range 21, W3.—*R. I. Johnson, Department of Natural Resources, Saskatoon.*

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER

The use of a tape recorder led to my discovery on June 2, 1968 of the Golden-winged Warbler, a new bird for the Regina area. I had been using the tape recorder to capture moods of different environments and seasons for use in our parks interpretative programme. The Golden-winged Warbler is a northeastern American species whose range reaches into the southeastern parts of Manitoba. So far as I know this is the first time that it has been reported in Saskatchewan. I hope to give more details in the next *Blue Jay*.—Fred G. Bard, Director, Museum, Regina.

CORRECTION

In the March *Blue Jay*, pages 40 et seq., the herbarium of the University of Calgary has been abbreviated UC. In the *Index Herbariorum* ed. 5 1964, published by the International Bureau, that herbarium was abbreviated UAC. The *Index* allotted the code letters UC to the University of California at Berkeley.

As you know, I have been reviewing Canadian herbaria for the Systematics and Phytogeography Section of the Canadian Botanical Association. Hence my concern to keep the record straight.—W. K. W. Baldwin, National Museum of Canada, Ottawa

PROPOSED REVISION OF SNHS CONSTITUTION

Note: The Executive of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society has approved the following proposal for the revision of the constitution and will present it for consideration to the 1968 Annual Meeting. Legal advice in preparing the revision was kindly given by David Wright of Saskatoon.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #1

Resolved that the name of the Society be changed from "The Saskatchewan Natural History Society" to "Saskatchewan Natural History Society".

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #2

Resolved that the Objects of the Society, as outlined in paragraph #2 of the "Declaration Under the Benevolent Societies Act" under date of July 15th, 1957, be cancelled and the following substituted therefore:

The objects of the Society shall be to stimulate, develop and maintain an interest in and understanding of nature in all its forms and the conservation of our natural resources of every nature and kind, and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing:

1. To stimulate and develop the study by individuals and others of all forms of nature and of all of our natural resources.
2. To stimulate, develop and maintain the interest of the general

public and of individuals, firms and corporations in the conservation of our natural resources.

3. To prepare, print, publish, sell, distribute, collect and otherwise deal in all forms of natural history publications and more particularly, to promote the publication and distribution of the Society's magazine "The Blue Jay".
4. To encourage and assist in the formation and operation of local natural history societies in Saskatchewan and elsewhere in North America.
5. To stimulate and maintain an interest in nature and our natural resources among young people through special projects of the Society.
6. To promote and develop an awareness of the importance of our natural resources through the presentation of scholarships, bursaries, citations, awards and presentations to persons, firms or corporations making a conspicuous contribution in the field of nature study or conservation.
7. To initiate and maintain educational programs to promote the conservation of our natural resources.

8. To foster the fullest possible co-operation with other societies, unincorporated associations and corporations with similar objects.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #3

Resolved that the Constitution of the Society, as adopted at a general meeting of the Society on October 21, 1949, be cancelled and is hereby cancelled, and that the following be adopted as the Bylaws of the Society:

Article I. Membership

1. Membership in the Society shall be open, upon proper application and the remittance of the required fee, to any individual or organization with an interest in nature or a desire to help in the work of conservation.
2. All members shall be entitled to vote at all annual or special general meetings.
3. Any member shall be entitled to hold office in the Society.
4. Classes of membership and membership fees shall be as decided from time to time by the annual meeting of the Society.

Article II. Board of Directors

1. The business and activities of the Society shall be conducted by a Board of Directors consisting of all of the elected and appointed Directors of the Society.
2. The elected Directors of the Society, consisting of the Past President, the President, two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and twelve Representatives-at-Large, shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Society and shall hold office for one year or until successors are appointed or elected. All Directors can be re-elected when their terms expire.
3. The appointed Directors of the Society shall consist of the President (or appointee) of each of the local Natural History Societies in Saskatchewan, and the incumbent of each other position named by

each annual meeting of the Society.

4. Directors retiring from office shall be deemed to hold office until the conclusion of the meeting at which they retire.
5. The duties of each of the elected and appointed Directors shall be as decided from time to time by the Board of Directors.
6. In the case of the death or resignation of an elected member of the Board of Directors, the remaining members of the Board may appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.
7. The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers to Standing Committees. The Chairman of each Standing Committee shall be named by the Board of Directors, and terms of reference provided.

Article III. Nominating Committee

1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least 3 months before the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall, after receiving the consent of each proposed candidate, submit to the annual meeting a list of the proposed nominees for election to the Board of Directors. Further nominations can then be made from the floor by those in attendance, or submitted in writing, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

Article IV. Meetings

1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held during the autumn of each year at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice of each such annual meeting shall be published in the Blue Jay and/or Newsletter at least 30 days before such meeting. A quorum at annual or special general meetings of the Society shall be 25 members.
2. Other meetings shall be called as decided from time to time by the Board of Directors.

3. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each quarter at the call of the President. A quorum shall be 7 members of the Board.
4. Notice of a Board of Directors meeting shall be given to the Directors at least one week prior to the date of the meeting, provided however, that the Directors may meet on regular dates without notice, or may, by unanimous consent, meet at any time or place without notice.
5. At the written request of any 20 members of the Society, the President shall call a special general meeting of the Society by giving 30 days notice of such meeting in the Blue Jay and/or Newsletter.
6. Voting for the elected Directors of the Society, where more than one nominee for a position has been named, shall be by secret ballot, with the person receiving the highest number of votes being declared elected. Voting on all other matters may be by show of hands.
7. Voting on all other matters of the Society, except amendments to the Bylaws, at all annual or special general meetings, or meetings of the Board of Directors shall be by simple majority.

Article V. Signing Officers

1. The signing officers of the Society shall consist of any two of the following: the President, Treasurer, and any such others as are designated by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Article VI. Funds

1. The funds of the Society shall only be expended for purposes consistent with the objects of the Society. Unusual expenditures must be authorized by a quorum of the Board of Directors.

Article VII. Audit

1. A person, or persons, shall be appointed at each annual meeting

of the Society to audit the records and accounts of the Society before the following annual meeting. In the case that such person is unable, or unwilling, to act, the Board of Directors shall be empowered to appoint a person or persons as auditor.

Article VIII. Fiscal Year

1. The fiscal year of the Society shall terminate on September 30 of each year.

Article IX. Custody and Use of Seal

1. The seal of the Society shall be in the custody of the secretary or such other person as may be designated by the Board of Directors and all papers or documents required to be sealed on behalf of the Society shall be sealed in the presence of the President and the Secretary or of such other persons as may be designated by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Article X. Amendments to the Bylaws

1. Amendments to these bylaws may only be made at the annual meeting of the Society or at any properly called special general meeting, by at least three-fourths of the votes cast by members present and qualified to vote. Notice of any such amendments, together with a copy of the amendment and a clear statement of its purpose, must be given in the Blue Jay and/or Newsletter at least 30 days before the annual or special general meeting.

Article XI. Dissolution

1. Subject to Section 47 of The Societies Act, 1959, on dissolution of the Society its property and assets shall, after payment of all liabilities, be donated to the Government of Saskatchewan for the exclusive use of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, to be used solely for the production of publications relating to natural history.

SUMMER MEETING, 1968



Stanley Street of Victoria, British Columbia, at the unveiling of the Maurice G. Street Wildlife Sanctuary sign, ten miles north of Nipawin, June 15, 1968.



Some of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society members on the Maurice G. Street Wildlife Sanctuary, along the Saskatchewan River above Tobin Lake, June 15, 1968.

THE CONDIE NATURE RESERVE

The Department of Natural Resources has established a new type of interpretative park at Condie just northwest of Regina. The area is not natural since much of it has been cultivated and Condie dam was originally built to provide water for railroad steam engines but it is hoped that native grasses and shrubs can be reestablished in the area.

Two nature trails have been developed, with points of interest staked out for the visiting public. As added attractions prairie dogs have been introduced from Val Marie; some beaver are being fed and they are constructing a dam. Boulder effigies, teepee rings, fireplaces and Indian graves have been brought in from other areas where they would have been destroyed. Some may call this "nature fakery" but we hope that this park will help us teach respect and interest in our natural heritage. Members of the Museum staff have recently conducted some special tours in the area and on July 27 the Regina Natural History Society was given a preview of this interpretative work. The public generally will not be admitted until 1969.—*Fred G. Bard*, Director, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina.

SNHS ANNUAL MEETING, 1968

The 1968 Annual Meeting of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society will be held in Yorkton on October 18-19. Hosts for the meeting will be the recently re-organized Yorkton Natural History Society, and its president Frank Switzer.

There will be an informal programme and reception Friday evening, with business meeting and programme Saturday morning and afternoon. The main address on Saturday evening will be given by Dr. George J. Mitchell, Associate Professor of Biology, University of Saskatchewan, Regina.

Two important motions will be put to general meeting, one proposing a revision of the constitution, and one proposing a raise in school memberships.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The proposed revision of the constitution, which will be brought to the general meeting by the Executive, is printed in this issue of the *Blue Jay* (pp 160-162) as required by the present constitution.

NOTICE OF MOTION RE: RAISE IN SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Notice is hereby given that the following motion, passed by the Executive at its meeting of February 10, 1968, will be proposed to the general meeting: "That the subscription-membership fee for schools be raised to \$2.00."

RESOLUTIONS

All resolutions should be sent to the Resolutions Chairman, the first vice-president, Mr. Gordon Silversides, 1201 Grace St., Moose Jaw.

The Society has an important role to play in urging conservation policies. Mr. Silversides will appreciate your sending resolutions to him in advance of the meeting, so that a thoughtful and well-formulated set of resolutions can be presented to the meeting.

NOMINATIONS

Please send your suggestions for officers to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Dr. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon.

With your suggestions, the committee will be prepared to bring in a slate for either the new constitution or the old constitution, depending on the decision of the meeting re: the revision of the constitution. Nominations will also be called for from the floor.

THE SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

OFFICERS (October, 1967 to October, 1968)

Honorary President.....	President J. W. T. Spinks, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon
President.....	W. A. Brownlee, 3628 Mason Avenue, Regina
Past President.....	Herbert C. Moulding, 90 Dunning Crescent, Regina
First Vice-President.....	Gordon Silversides, 1201 Grace Street, Moose Jaw
Second Vice-President.....	J. A. Wedgwood, 610 Leslie Ave., Saskatoon
Treasurer.....	Frank H. Brazier, 2657 Cameron Street, Regina
Corresponding Secretary...	Margaret Belcher, 2601 Winnipeg Street, Regina
Recording Secretary.....	Maureen Rever, University of Sask., Saskatoon

DIRECTORS

One-year directors: Ross Homer, Prince Albert; Mrs. Cy Knight, Moose Jaw; Frank Roy, Saskatoon; Hugh Smith, Edmonton; Frank Switzer, Yorkton.

Two-year directors: Mrs. Lillian McBean, Swift Current; M. Timothy Pyres, Calgary, Alberta; Robert W. Nero, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Mrs. D. Sutton, Rocanville; Steve Waycheshen, Kelvington.

Three-year directors: J. D. Hayward, Wolseley; Bryan Isinger, Yellow Creek; Ernie Kuyt, Fort Smith, N.W.T.; E. B. Peterson, Calgary; Mrs. K. H. Skinner, Indian Head.

RESIDENTS OF LOCAL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETIES

Gordon Silversides, 1201 Grace St., Moose Jaw; Dr. G. B. Howard, 47 21st St. E., Prince Albert; Jack MacKenzie, 6 - 38 Spence Street, Regina; J. A. Wedgwood, 610 Leslie Ave., Saskatoon; Dr. Jan Looman, Experimental Station, Swift Current; Frank Switzer, 140 Logan Cres. W., Yorkton.

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

Bookshop Review Committee: James Jowsey, 3433 21st Street, Regina; Crest Committee: Ruth Chandler, Shaunavon; Local Societies: William Brownlee, 3628 Mason Ave., Regina; Membership: Frank Brazier, Box 1121, Regina; Newsletter: James Slimmon, 2526 Hanover Ave., Saskatoon; Prairie Dogs: David Chandler and Ruth Chandler, Shaunavon; Prairie Nest Records Scheme: Robert W. Nero, Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Winnipeg 2; Publications: C. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon; Research Awards: Elmer Fox, 3455 Rae Street, Regina.

THE BLUE JAY

Editor: George F. Ledingham; Assistant Editors: Margaret Belcher, Robert W. Nero; Junior Naturalists' Editor: Mrs. Joyce Deutscher.

All items for publication should be submitted to George F. Ledingham, Editor, 2335 Athol Street, Regina.

MEMBERSHIPS

The classes of memberships in the Saskatchewan Natural History Society are as follows: *Regular*, \$2.00; *Supporting*, \$3.00; *Sustaining*, \$5.00; *Junior* (including schools), \$1.00. The *Blue Jay* and *Newsletter* are sent without charge to all members not in arrears for dues.

Send all renewals and new memberships to Frank Brazier, Treasurer, SNHS, Box 1121, Regina, Sask.

REPRINTS

Requests for quantities of reprints of any article printed in the *Blue Jay* should be sent to Printcraft Ltd., Regina, Sask., within one month of publication. Contributors wishing a few extra copies of the current *Blue Jay* may get them at cost. Requests for these should be made to the Editor when material is submitted for publication.

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